24-PAGE BROADSHEET REVIEW





Ireland's new front line

DAVID McKITTRICK,



Give the boys a chance

HOW UNIVERSITIES ARE FAILING **OUR SCHOOLCHILDREN**

Finally, police apologise to Lawrence family

By Kathy Marks

FIVE YEARS after Stephen Lawrence was stabbed to death, his parents finally received an apology from Sir Paul Condon, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, yesterday for the catalogue of errors that enabled their son's killers to es-

The apology was made through the assistant commissioner, Ian Johnston, the force's third highest-ranking officer. At the public inquiry into Stephen's death, he told the Lawrence family: "We have let

you down. We could have and should have done better.

'On behalf of myself and the commissioner, who specifically asked me to associate himself with these words, and the whole of the Metropolitan Police, I offer my sincere and deep apologies to you," he said.

Despite Mr Johnston's statement, pressure was mounting last night for the commissioner himself to appear before the

Stephen's parents, Neville and Doreen Lawrence, believe that since ultimate responsibility for the conduct of indi-

vidual officers rests with Sir negligence and incompetence Paul, he should be called to answer questions about why the murder investigation went so badly wrong. Sir Paul yesterday made it clear that he was willing to attend. But Sir William Macpherson of Cluny, chairwas unexpected. Yesterday, he

to be divided about whether he should be called. Yesterday's apology was a belated attempt by the Metropolitan Police to counter the disastrous effect of the public inquiry on the force's image,

with almost daily revelations of

man of the inquiry, and his

three advisers are understood

over the past three months. Last week. Mr Lawrence told the inquiry that he was bitter about the police's failure to apologise to his family. Mr Johnston's statement

waited for Mr Lawrence to arrive before addressing him from the witness box. Standing up, be said: "Mr Lawrence, I wanted to say to you that 1 am truly sorry that we have let you down. It has been a tragedy for you. You have lost a son and not seen

his killers brought to justice." He went on: "It has been a

tragedy for the Metropolitan Police, who have lost the confidence of a significant section of the community for the way we have handled the case. I can understand and explain some of what went wrong. I cannot and do not seek to justify it.

"We are determined to learn lessons from this. A great deal has changed and yet more will change. We have tried over the last four years, since the first investigation, to show imagination and determination to prosecute Stephen's killers. I deeply regret that we have not put his killers away."

for his own obstinacy over the years in refusing to acknowledge mistakes in the way that the original murder inquiry was conducted As recently as February last year, he claimed that "right from the start, we did all we could".

Five youths were charged with the racially motivated attack on Stephen, who was stabbed to death in Eltham, south-east London, in April 1993. None of them was ever

Outside the inquiry, the Lawrences said that the apolma, heartache and suffering". "The commissioner now accepts that the first investigation was flawed and incompetent,"

they said in a statement. "What

will happen to those officers?

Will they be disciplined? Will those now retired lose their Referring to allegations of corruption within the murder

squad, they added: "Maybe we need another public inquiry into police corruption for the commissioner to then accept that these boys were protected

"If it hadn't been for this inquiry, the commissioner would still be saying that officers did everything they could to bring our son's killers to justice. Whilst we accept the commissioner's apology, we do not forget that Stephen's killers are still free."

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Mr Lawrence added: "We would like now to have the commissioner here himself to wer questions and him himself to apologise."

The inquiry was adjourned until Monday. Today, the High Court will decide whether tha five suspects can be forced to attend the inquiry.

Jobless raise the spectre of slump

By Lea Paterson

THE JOBLESS total has risen for the first time in more than two years, prompting fears in the City that Britain could be heading for a recession.

Publication of the uneinolovment figures vesterday coincided with the release of data showing that pay-particularly in the private sector - is still surging ahead.

INSIDE

Is the UK heading for recession? page 3 City analysis, page

Leading article,

Review, page 3 On Tuesday, Eddie George,

the Governor of the Bank of England, warned that the economy was closer to overheating. That means interest rates could rise yet again, despite yesterday's increase in unemployment. Some economists now fear

that the UK could be moving into a painful period of rising unemployment and rising inflation. A fortnight ago, the Bank of England's committee of economists, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), shocked both industry and the financial 0.25 per cent to 7.5 per cent.

Now a spate of unfavourable economic data-including yesterday's pay figures and news on Tuesday that inflation had hit a six-year high - has led many City economists to predict that rates could rise yet again.

Kevin Gardiner at Morgan Stanley said: "Un balance, I data has increased the risk of a rate rise in the months ahead, possibly as early as July."

In the past, the MPC has said it was particularly concerned about the growth in earnings, particularly in the private sec-tor. Yesterday's data revealed that average private sector earnings were almost 6 per cent higher in March 1998 than in March 1997.

The Treasury made its familiar plea to industry to show restraint. A spokesperson said: "It would be the worst of shorttermism now to pay ourselves more today at the cost of higher interest rates, fewer jobs and slower growth tomorrow."

The Conservatives were quick to jump on the offensive. John Redwood, trade and industry spokesman, said: "The Government has lost control of earnings and prices. Now they will make manufacturing suffer with higher interest rates and higher sterling."

The recent rate rise is already filtering through to consumers. The Woolwich and Northern Rock yesterday became the latest mortgage lenders to put up rates. Both raised their rates to



A welcome is prepared for Louise Woodward at a bakery in her hometown, Elton, Cheshire

Woodward flies home as parents sue

BY DAVID USBORNE in Boston

FACING A vigorous civil lawsuit and her name tainted for the rest of her life by a conviction of manslaughter, Britain's most famous au pair abroad, Louise Woodward, arrives back at her home village of Elton, Cheshire,

She was travelling to Britain overnight on a British Airways flight and will face the world's press when she arrives at Manchester airport this morning

Yesterday she collected her passport, held by the court, which had been the only remaining ohstacle to Woodward's departure from Boston. The highest Massachusetts

court on Monday upheld the de-Zobel, to downgrade the original conviction of second degree murder to manslaughter and to release her on the 279 days she had already served in prison. Woodward, however, faces fresh legal troubles from the

parents of the child she is con-

victed of killing, Matthew

court house in a civil damages lawsuit filed against her by Deborah and Smil Eappen. Lawyers for the family asked the court to grant an injunction

Boston airport, proceedings

got under way in a federal

barring Woodward from making any money from selling her story to the media. The wider suit, meanwhile, seeks both compensatory and punitive damages from her which could mount into the tens of millions of dollars. Imposing any civil damages against Woodward once she is on British soil could be problematic, however

The purpose of this lawsuit is to ensure that Louise Woodward does not become a millionaire because she killed an 8-month-old for Mr and Mrs Eappen.

The most outspoken critic of Woodward has been the District Attorney who first filed the murder charges against her, Thomas Reilly. "I want her out of this country," he said. "She should leave this country as soon as possible. She killed that little boy."

markets by raising rates by Blair urges firms to sack hooligans

Chief Political Correspondent

COMPANIES WERE given legal backing by the Home Secretary last night to sack workers found guilty of football hooliganism at the World Cup after an appeal by the Prime Minister for employers to get tough with the troublemakers.

The Government acted last night amid rising fears that there will be more trouble involving England fans in Toulouse, where Monday's game against Romania takes place.

The troublemakers who are Straw was designed to be used in the firing line include a senior aircraftsman in the RAF, a Nuneaton railwayman, two postal workers and a London

ticket agency clerk. Mr Blair issued his call to employers after emergency talks with Jack Straw and George Robertson, the Secretary of State for Defence, who will tell the armed forces to make sure servicemen are dismissed, even if they cause

trouble on leave. Senior Home Office sources aid the statement issued by Mr

by firms to protect themselves from legal action by workers against unfair dismissal if they appealed to tribunals over sack-

ings after the World Cup.

Mr Straw said: "Clearly employers will have to look at the particular circumstances but they may well want to consider the impact of the behav-iour of those individuals on the reputation of their businesse and their suitability to deal with customers and their fellow

PAGE 10

with the CBL Adair Turner, director general of the CBI, said that if employers believed that "proven hooliganism" could impact on their business then they "may wish to instigate a

range of appropriate actions". A Whitehall source said: What we have got to do is name and shame these people and make it clear that they cannot nip across the Channel to cause mayhem, thinking they can get away with it." Mr Blair's decision to call on

firms to sack employees found guilty of offences connected The statement was agreed

FOREIGN NEWS | BUSINESS

with soccer hooliganism was a clear attempt to deter the troublemakers from causing more mayhem on Monday.

But it was also seen as an admission of failure by the authorities to stop the troublemakers travelling to the World Cup. Mr Straw explained to Mr Blair in their private talks that some of the troublemakers had not been on the police computers, had no police records, and were not known football hooligans. In those circumstances, it was almost impossible to stop them travelling abroad.

SPORT

PAGE 27

Shadow Home Secretary, has tabled amendments to the Crime and Disorder Bill currently going through Parliament to enable police to apply to a magistrate for a restriction order against a fan if they have good reason to believe the individual is likely to cause trouble. But Home Office sources said the measure could not be introduced for the World Cup. Alan Clark's comments

World Cup, Sport.





Veuve Clicquot

CHAMPAGNE OF THE SEASON



HOME NEWS Linford Christie made a

PAGE 2

start of a libel trial

The Conservatives sold dramatic outburst from Rosyth Naval Base for lit-

POLITICS

The head of South The US spent \$200 to bol- Batsman Steve James Africa's former ruling ster the sagging yen for is set to make his Engthe witness box at the the more than a tenth of party has expressed his the first time in more land Test debut today at

revulsion at apartheid than six years

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HOME NEWS

New concern over Aids drugs

Disfiguring side effects have appeared in some Aids patients, raising concerns about the safety of "miracle" drugs that have transformed the outlook for sufferers from the disease.

Barristers' legal aid fees row

The Bar Council mounted a rearguard action to protect the controversially large fees earned in criminal legal aid cases by senior barristers.

Manchester's schools criticised Manchester city council has no idea what happened to 140 excluded pupils, according to a highly critical inspectors' report published today.

Pregnancy warning over peanuts Pregnant women who suffer from allergies have been advised to avoid eating peanuts to protect their unborn children from developing a lethal allergy Page 9

FOREIGN NEWS PAGES 13 - 16

Protest as Taliban shuts schools Afghanistan's Taliban religious army has shut down more than 100 private schools, many of them educating girls.

Boost for Clinton's China policy Three former presidents have put their weight behind

President Clinton's policy of engagement with China in an open letter addressed to Congress. Page 1.

HK suffers first fall in race bets

Horse race betting volumes are down in Hong Kong for the first time ever.

BUSINESS NEWS

Thorn exits US with £545m sale

Thorn took a significant step forward when it announced the sale of its American husiness for a higher than expected figure of £545m.

Carlton's £160m move into discs

Carlton Communications took a further step into the world of cutting-edge entertainment technology by paying £160m for Nimbus Technologies. a leading manufacturer of video discs.

SPORTS NEWS PAGES 23 - 32

Stimpson to take on Lomu England have handed Tim Stimpson the task of mark-

ing the formidable Jonah Lomu in Saturday's rugby union Test against the All Blacks.

Pioline thrown out of Nottingham

The French tennis player Cedric Pioline was thrown out of the Nottingham Open after he apparently swore at the umpire following a controversial decision.

THURSDAY REVIEW 24-PAGE BROADSHEET SECTION

Hamish McRae

'If you stand back and look at France's international position, there are great streogths that will serve it well. There are also serious problems.

Max Clifford

'If Louise wants to win yet more friends and influence the undecided, she should tell her story to everyone, without restriction or fee."

David Aaronovitch

'People who use "parent" as a verb are probably those who huy magazines with articles about where to take vegetarianism during the summer holidays.' Page 5

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Cryptic crossword, section one, page 32

Huge tax break for bankers

TONY BLAIR was accused of creating new Labour "fat cats" last night after it emerged that partners in a city merchant bank and even the Paymaster-General could gain millions from the tax reforms of the

Chancellor, Gordon Brown. The 34 United Kingdom partners of Goldman Sachs could be collectively £500m better off if they hang on to their shares in the bank for 10 years after it is floated on the stock market, a financial analyst has calculated. One of the partners is Gavyn Davies, an adviser to the Chancellor.

Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster-General, could get a £2.1m tax break if he chose to sell his company, Transtech, in 10 years' time, plus a further £1.5m if he sold his five homes.

The changes, announced in the March Budget, were denounced by MPs from all parties yesterday for penalising small business owners while helping the very rich. Under the new rules, entre-

preneurs and shareholders pay progressively less capital gains tax (CGT) if they sell up, from 40 per cent down to 24 per cent over 10 years. Those who own more than 5 per cent of their companies can reduce the tax bill to 10 per cent. However, small husiness owners who sell up on retirement will now have to pay tax on their gains, instead of only on

those worth more than £250,000. Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, told Mr massively regressive," he said.

By Fran Abrams Westminster Correspondent

Blair at question time that the reform would benefit a few rich businessmen at the expense of public services.

"The Prime Minister has said there are some hard choices to be made. This is surely an easy one. Spend rather more money on providing decent public services for the many and less on large tax breaks for the few," he said.

Mr Blair described the accusation as "nonsense". "I think the vast majority of people support this because it will encourage long-term investment in business and industry," he said.

The revelation also brought criticism from some Labour members. At a meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party attended by the Chancellor, the MP for Pendle, Gordon Prentice, asked what ordinary voters would think of Goldman Sachs' partners making more than £50m each from their flotation. The richest 5 per cent of people still held almost four-

tenths of the wealth, he said. "What kind of perception would people have outside about this very hig discrepancy in wealth?" he asked later.

David Heathcote-Amory, the Conservative Treasury spokesman, said the Conservatives had considered this tax measure and rejected it. "It's a fatcat benefit charger and it's







Linford Christie (right) who took the stand yesterday in his libel case against former convict John McVicar (left)

Christie's silence in court

LINFORD CHRISTIE suddenly BY JOHN DAVISON went completely silent, putting his hand to his face, as he sat in the witness box yesterday at the start of a libel trial where he is denying claims he may have taken performance-enhancing drugs.

"Why am I here"." the former 100-metre world champion finally asked.

He had just begun giving evidence when, for longer than it used to take him to cover 100 metres, he stayed stock still while the High Court judge and his barrister. Patrick Mal-

oney QC. asked if he was all right. At last, he took a sip of water but could say nothing.

Court adjourned for five minutes and still having difficulties and breathing deeply. Christie. 38, managed to explain to his barrister: "I sat here and I thought, why am I here?

The only thing I may be guilty of is to go out there and

do my best to make people feel good about themselves." Mr Maloney went on to ask Christie, who had passed more than 100 drug tests, initially failed one at the 1988 Seoul Olympics before being cleared. Christie said the substance

may have come from ginseng. which is not banned, "In one year," he added, "the Sports Council named me as their most tested athlete. I think I was tested 18 or 19 times."

He described how as a youngster he never heard the national anthem played when the medals were presented. "I said I am going to work so hard so that when they hear an anthem it's going to be British, I

worked my arse off, I worked so hard, and then I've got to sa here and have people access me of cheating," he said. "What did I do wrong." Christie, has brought the

libel case against John McVieur - a former armed robber and escaped convict turned journalist - who was described in court as having once been Britain's most wanted man.

He wrote an article in the defunct saturical magazine Spike in September 1995 titled. "How did Linford get this good?" The case continues

Riot trial collapses against Campfield asylum-seekers

THE TRIAL of nine asylum- BY JASON BENNETTO AND seekers charged with rioting in Britain's biggest immigration detention camp, which is run by

Group 4, collapsed yesterday: The Crown Prosecution Service is understood to have withdrawn its evidence after becoming concerned at the quality of information provided by private security guards.

CASPAR HENDERSON

too early to say whether ministers would order an inquiry into Group 4's handling of the Nine West African men were

were on trial for 13

faced sentences of up to 10 years for riot and violent dis-

Nicholas Jarman, speaking for the prosecution, told the court yesterday that the case was essentially based on eviarrested after a riot at Campsdence from security officers field House detention centre, on outy during the incident and near Oxford, last August. They

that "no prosecution properly ducted could or

ford Crown Court and had wite a jury to convict on the basis of this evidence".

The jury had heard that Group 4 staff were attacked with dumbbells, a kitchen was wrecked a shop looted, and the übraryset ablaze. It took Group 4 riol squads with shields and catons and police officers with dogs to restore order.

Much of the evidence was

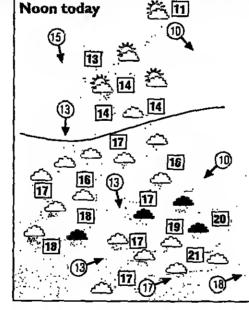
themselves or said they could, were freed, having be have been mistaken. They the names of defendants and

other detainees confused u Seven of the defendant are claiming assium as electron-mental protesters or partical opponents of the Migerian or Ghanaian governments.

hut during the trial Group 4 de tried to complet suici ficers repeatedly contradicted bowing the tries colla permission to re-Britain. The other five will be taken backing detention while their cases are examined.

One of the deridants. Nigerian Sunny Odlede. 30. said: "Justice has been don He said he was not surprise

BRITAIN TODAY



OUTLOOK

England and Wales will have a duli morning with rain and extensive mist over west-facing coasts and hills. The rain will become lighter during the afternoon with the chance of a little brightness in some southern areas. Where it does brighten, it will feel fairly warm and muggy. Northern Ireland and the southern half of Scotland will also be mainly cloudy with rain never too far away, but northern Scotland is expected to be bright with sunny spells and just isolated

NEXT FEW DAYS formorrow will start misty in many parts of England and Wales, but some hot sun will break through away from western coasts. Southern Scotland and Northern Ireland will brighten up after early rain, but northern Scotland will turn damp after a fine start. The weekend will be hot and humid in England and Wales, but with a risk of thunderstorms. Scotland and Northern Ireland will also be

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AIR QUALITY

SUN & MOON 14.10 WEATHERLINE

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AIR QUALITY

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THE WORLD YESTERDAY

THE INDEPENDENT

Steel doesn't grow on trees.

替Think Wood

SO ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY, EVEN LAST YEAR'S AD IS RECYCLABLE.

The Timber Trade Federation, 26-27 Oxendon Street, London SW1Y 4EL. http://www.ttf.co.uk

主主 Think Wood

Inflation up, unemployment rising, house sales flat. Is there a recession on the way?

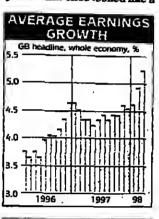
IS THE FIRST Labour Chancellor in nearly two decades on Economics Editor the verge of plunging the economy into recession? And if he is, why on earth is he letting the Bank of England's nine monetary eggheads loose to raise the cost of loans?

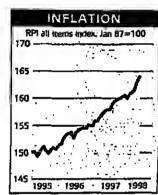
The impression given by recent headline-hitting figures is that Gordon Brown is steering straight towards a recessionary iceberg. Yesterday, for example, the number of people claiming unemployment benefit rose for the first time in two years.

At the same time, earnings growth has burst through the per cent barrier, certain to make the bank's Monetary Policy Committee itch to increase interest rates again.

The prospect of still tougher interest levels when the jobless rate might be starting to rise brought a dismayed reaction from business and vinions.

This has come on top of other recent news that the strong pound has brought exports growth to a halt Manufacturing output is stagnant. Sales volumes on the high street are growing more slowly and what once looked like a





housing bubble, at least in London, has petered out.

But it is pure ponsense to ggest that all this inevitably points to recession ahead. Although it would be as daft to rule it out entirely as it would be to say hurricanes never hit Britain, recession is less likely than the rather less attentiongrabbing truth that we are in for - neither boom nor bust but something in between.

As Gerry Holtham, head of the Institute for Public Policy Research and a former City economist, put it: "For the pundits, it has to be either economic miracle or economic collapse. Nine times out of 10 it's neither."

Some bits of the British economy are doing badly while others are doing very nicely in-

The debate is pitching the sufferers, mainly in industry who want lower interest rates. a weaker pound and galloping growth to bail them out against the far less vocal majority who would rather oot have higher borrowing costs but can live with them.

On one side of the scales is

ruary to April was virtually the same as a year earlier, and has climbed only 4 per cent since the peak of the last business cycle in 1989. Employment in industry is flat, too.

Bill Good, managing director of Sterling Tubes, a Midlandsbased manufacturer, said: "Manufacturing is taking the full pain and strain of the Government's fight on inflation.

"The rapid rise of the pound has seriously affected our margins. As a result, we have had to lay off 17 per cent of the workforce on one site - around 40

There is little doubt that it is going to get worse. Export orders and confidence have turnhled. Recession will hit manufacturers and their workforce, especially in the parts of the country where industry is most coocentrated.

Yet the Chancellor and the Bank of England can point to plenty of evidence on the other side of the scales.

For example, yesterday's figures showed a big increase of 61,000 in economy-wide employment in the latest quarter, while the more reliable surveybased measure of unemployment also fell, by 35,000. And economists warned the small rise in the claimant count could easily be a one-off blip rather than the start of a trend.

More worrying was the evidence that pay pressures are increasing. Average earnings rose by 5.2 per cent in the year to April, well above the limit compatible with the Government's 2.5 per cent inflation tar-

Even stripping out bonuses. which critics of the Bank of England like to do, private sector pay grew by 5 per cent. In fact, excluding the bonus element makes the trend look worse, as basic earnings have accelerated at an even steeper pace than the total.

Business is hitting back at the Government's exhortations to keep pay under control. Andrew Smith, the Employment minister, predictably said the figures sent "a sharp warning signal that responsibility all round on pay is called for".

of the British Chambers of wag the dog in the current pol- a strong upward trend in comof the British Chambers of commerce, hit back Speaking icy debate, it is industry and not mercial huilding. Big infra-tionally because of the british Chambers of icy debate, it is industry and not mercial huilding. Big infra-structure projects already ence in Birmingham, he said: "Politicians do not have to nanny business to keep wages in check. The aim of husiness is to minimise costs hut many increases are a necessary response to skills shortages in key

The industry lobby likes to blame the earnings and inflation problem on financial services and information technology, the fastest-growing parts of the economy. Their fat cats make an easy target.

But even if it were true that earnings in manufacturing were languishing - and it is not, for they have picked up smartly too - pinning the blame for inflationary pressures on particular sectors is scarcely a knock-out argument. The two most huoyant areas, business and financial services and communications, account for 28 per cent of national output.

This is bigger than manufacturing, whose contribution to manufacturing. Output in Feb GDP is 23 per cent and shrink-



Prosperity and decline: two tales of a single town

BY MATTHEW BRACE AND PIPPA CREAR

READING - the typical 1980's boom town - represents the two sides of the economy at the end of the Nineties. One is a centre for thrusting high technology -the other a declining manufac-

Over the last 15 years there has been a large influx of hitech companies re-locating to avoid astronomical Londoo rents, Industrial estates now sprawl across the former grazing land between the town centre and the Thames. Computer firms such as Digital, NEC, Oracle and Microsoft have all moved here into Britain's own Silicon Valley.

Service industries, of which the computer, information technology and telecommunications companies are a part have grown to take in 74 per cent of the town's total workforce and are predicted to produce another 1.3 million jobs by

In the past three years, house prices have increased by 40 per cent. Tony Griffiths, director of the White Knights Estate Agency said that "property prices are considerably above the highest ever levels. It was an 'early to fall, quick to rise' scenario.'

Unemployment in the Reading travel-to-work area stands at just 1.8 per cent, and salaries for IT consultancy jobs have gone up, in some cases by £10,000 in the past year.

The flipside to this success story has been a dramatic decline in manufacturing which employs just 13 per cent of the town's work force hut the Borough Council's economists have predicted further job loss-

The decline is ohvious throughout the town. Ask anyone in Reading, whether they

be taxi drivers, office workers, or railway porters, and they will tell you the same story. "There is hardly any old traditional manufacturers left here - it's all glass and steel and blokes in posh suits."

One bastion of manufacturing sits on the Littlejohn's Lane industrial estate. John Crane UK Limited, which employs 77 people, has made mechanical seals for heavy industry on this site for 25 years and is still going strong but increasingly the company and its staff are aware of how the town's economy is

"We are up on our output targets," said Matthew Crib, a production supervisor at the factory. "We never have difficulty keeping our engineers because this is such a good company for employees but it is increasingly difficult to find good engineers."

He and his colleague Simon Lewis both believe more and more people when leaving school or going to University are tempted by the high wages offered in computing and other high tech industries and away from engineering. "I have seen this town

change, not only in the last nine or 10 years, but again in the past few months, from a town with more engineers and skilled workers to one with fewer as more people join the computer companies who come here to settle," he said.

Intergralis Network Systems hoasts one of the highest growth rates in the hurgeoning IT sector. Based in Pheale, on the outskirts of Reading, it has grown by more than 50 per cent in the last five years.

Managing Director Dan Collins expects Integralis to continue to grow at its current rate. "The growth of the company is part of a general trend,"

PRICES SHOWN ARE REDUCED BY THE AMOUNT OF VAT PAYABLE ON OUR NORMAL SELENG PRICES.

Viagra to be made available to all on the Health Service

By JEREMY LAURANCE Health Editor

VIAGRA, THE new drug treatment for male impotence, will be made available on the NHS once it is granted a UK licence, ministers have confirmed.

However, it was unclear yesterday whether restrictions will be imposed to limit prescriptions of the drug. In the US, 1.7 million prescriptions were written for Viagra in the two months following its launch last March. The drug costs £120 for a box of 30 pills.

Senior managers warn that if a free-for-all is allowed, with GPs given carte blanche to prescribe what some describe as a recreational drug the NHS will be bankrupted. About 2.9 million men are estimated to suffer from impotence, one in ten of the adult male population. Impotence rises sharply with age to 39 per cent in men over 40 and 67 per cent in men over 70.



Viagra: one in ten men suffers from impotence

Tessa Jowell, Minister of State for Health, said if the drug was licensed, which is expected in September, it would be made available "to meet identified clinical need". One option open to the Government would be to restrict its: prescription to hospital spe- cost the NHS a lot."

cialists to ensure that patients are properly examined and advised about the risk of side effects. Viagra has been linked with two dozen deaths and must not be used by patients taking nitrite drugs for heart. conditions. Other expensive drugs such as beta-interferon for multiple sclerosis are restricted to consultant-only prescribing.

It is prospects for finance,

ning the industry.

in the industry.

cent growth this year."

economy like Britain's.

Hong Kong slump worsens

business services such as ac-

countancy and information

technology that will probably

preserve the economy from an

Spending on IT, for example,

is more than booming, and not

just for the obvious reasons like

the launch of the single cur-

rency and the millennium hug.

There is also a huge backlog of

husiness spending on upgrad-

ing software and computer sys-

tems and a massively

expanding consumer market.

Limited, an IT company based

in Henley-on-Thames, Oxford-shire, which yesterday an-

nounced a 40 per cent surge in

annual profits, said: "We've ex-

perienced no difficulties what-

soever. Costs are way down on

our customers' lists of criteria."

The outlook for construc-

tion is also favourable. Al-

though speculative office and

retail developments are vul-

nerable to a loss of confidence,

A spokeswoman for AIT

outright recession.

Professor John Henry, editor of the British Medical Association's Guide to Medicines and Drugs, said: "GPs are often pressured by patients for drugs and they may give in and pre-scribe. To close that loophole it may be necessary to restrict Viagra to specialists who have the expertise to judge each

Ann Craig director of the Impotence Association, said: What the Government is worried about is that if people who don't need it get hold of it, it will

Viagra has made a contribution to Ireland's continuing economic boom, financial analysts said today. Record sales of the drug in the United States have ensured that Ireland's exports are continuing to some

A key ingredient of Viagra is produced by Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, the drug's manufacturers, at their Irish base in Ringaskiddy, Co Cork. Figures from Ireland's Cen-

tral Statistics Office show that exports in the first three months of this year were 29 per cent higher than the same period in 1997, putting the country on course for a potential 12.5 per cent economic growth. And the returns highlighted a 61 per cent rise in the export

which the Viagra ingredient is classified - in the early part of 1998, compared with the same months of the previous year. Leading article, Review, page 3



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Eappens aim to make Woodward pay

Dead child's parents seek damages and an injunction to stop convicted au pair profiting from her crime

JUST ONE day after the highest FROM DAVID USBORNE court in Massachusetts ruled that British au pair Louise Woodward had reached the end of criminal proceedings in the death of Matthew Eappen, the first page was turned in a civil suit filed by the baby's

Lawyers for Deborah and Sunil Eappen went before the US District Court in Boston yesterday to initiate the case. As a first step, they asked Judge William Young to grant an instant injunction to bar Woodward from making any money from the tragedy through book, film or newspaper deals.

Over the longer term, the Eappens will be seeking compensation and punitive damages from Woodward. While the sums involved were not specified in the filing, they could theoretically run to tens of millions of dollars. Applying any ruling to Woodward in Britain, however, would be complicated.

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months and reopen many of the wounds from last year's criminal trial. Woodward was represented at yesterday's injunction hearing by a new lawyer who will represent her in the suit, a well-known Boston civil de-

fence lawyer, Norman Zalkind. The Eappen family have announced the creation of the "Matty Eappen Foundation". Any money won in the case, the family said, would go to the foundation to fund child abuse research.

"We want to do all we can so this never happens again," said Matthew's mother, Deborah Eappen. "If there is any financial gain from this case, it should all go toward educating people about child abuse, about shaken baby syndrome".

Mrs Eappen, who, with her husband was staying with relatives in Chicago yesterday, added: "There is right and there is wrong. It is wrong for her to profit in any way from what she did to Matty. What she did was wrong, for her to benefit financially would he so

The suit, which was filed on Monday less than two hours after the Supreme Judicial at all".

in Boston

Court issued its ruling on the criminal case, raises echoes of the O J Simpson saga. He too faced civil wrongful death suits after his criminal trial and was finally ordered to pay damages totalling \$33.5m.

Winning a civil suit against Woodward should be much easier. Mr Simpson was acquitted of all criminal charges. Woodward faces her civil trial convicted of manslaughter. Moreover, while prosecutors in Woodward's criminal trial had to prove guilt beyond a reasonable guilt, the civil case need only demonstrate a "preponderance of evidence" that she was responsible for Matthew's death.

Whether the Eappens would prevail over Woodward once she is in Britain, beyond American jurisdiction, was less certain Legal experts said the family, if they succeed in their The civil trial could last US civil suit, would then have to go hefore a British court before any funds could be collected or before any ban on her making money from the case could be enforced.

Also ordered to appear at yesterday's injunction hearing was the junior lawyer who was sacked earlier this month from Woodward's defence team, Elaine Whitfield Sharp. In recent weeks, Ms Sharp has been cited in news reports as complaining that while Woodward was a lodger in her home she was working behind her back with her mother, Susan, to secure hook and newspaper contracts. The Eappen lawyers were expected to submit copies of British newspaper articles to the court purporting to detail efforts that the Woodward family may have made to secure such deals.

But Woodward's criminal lawyers insisted she had made no attempt to secure media deals. "It is really unfortunate that this is happening," Barry Scheck commented yesterday. "To my knowledge, there are no such plans and I don't think it's going to happen. Nothing like this has been done by anybody



Andy, a minder, standing guard over the Woodwards' home in the village of Elton yesterday

Elton waits, divided and silent

LITTLE IS ever as it seems in village life and Elton is no exception. Louise Woodward's home is a large detached home that her father helped to build, and whose size is commented on regularly around here.

Yesterday, though, that house seemed the loneliest place in the village. Looking in, you could only see a curtain move. Looking out was Sue Woodward.

The sense of a community pulling together for a common goal has been tarnished by the past few weeks of accusations over money and the very public dispute within the support committee. On the record,

By ANN TRENEMAN

thing. Off the record, other feelings emerge. The support committee is described as being on an emotional rollercoaster, Jean Jones, the respected and well-known villager who started the support group to help the relatively unknown Woodward family, has fallen out with Sue over the trust fund and accused her of being obsessed with money.

Everyone wishes Sue would talk. Perhaps today she will. She is said to have wanted to on Tuesday. When she heard from Boston that her daughter was free to leave (though still as a everyooe says exactly the right convicted felon) her first reac-

tion was to walk out of her front door and onto her well-cut lawn to give an impromptu press

After all, some 100,000 people have written letters to the family and some £250,000 has been donated to help pay her daughter's legal fees. Why not tell them how she felt? She was excited and on an adrenalin high. She had lots to say.

But then she talked to her lawyer and the result was a formal statement that gave very little away.

Many people think Sue Woodward has sold her story to the media already. Some people who know her believe it, oth-

Many in Elton are already rehearsing the reasons why she should. . No one thinks Louise should.

One of the few things that everyone in the village can agree on is that if Louise Woodward sold her story to the media then the tide of goodwill. that still carries her here would turn on her. But Sue, they say, is a different story.

Which it is, of course. It is a mother's story and villagers vesterday were able to mount fierce cases in the pouring rain as to why a mother should be able to sell a story about visiting her daughter every day, about giving up her life and work and habits, about a mar-

riage that has been divided for some time by the Atlantic "It's definitely in the public interest," said one man, "Ab-

So, I ask, is the village split about this? "The village is already split,"

solutely."

"What about?"

The answer to this question is a long and winding with too many questions and long pauses. Should any of the Woodwards profit from their story? Should the Eappens try to stop them? What's going on with the trust fund? Will Louise fight on to clear her name? Lots of questions and at the root of

them all is money.

She could be a nanny

BY GLENDA COOPER Social Affairs Correspondent

LOUISE WOOOWARD could still legally work as a nanny in this country despite her conviction for manslaughter.

At the moment there is no regulation of nannies in Britain. although the Government announced when it published its Green Paper on child care that it was considering compulsory registration for all nannies.

Although it carries no lega weight, in their dissenting opinion published on Tuesday three of the judges of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court said that Woodward stood convicted of "a grave act of child abuse" and "should not in the future be entrusted with the care of children of others".

Roy Paylor, president of the Association of Directors of Social Services (ADSS), said yesterday that Woodward would not able to be a child minder as strict regulation governs this area. "If someone in her position applied to be a child minder we could not take them on because of the conviction.

"If, however, she wished to become a nanny she could because they are not regulated at present. The ADSS has been pressing for regulation."

Mr Paylor added that if Louise herself were to have a child her local social services would immediately set up a risk assessment meeting with her and the baby's father, but the child would not automatically be put on the at-risk register.

A spokeswoman for the Daycare Trust said that they would urge the Government to make "every effort" to regulate nannies.

"There are a range of advantages in doing so - to ensure quality of service, to offer support to nannies themselves and to give confidence to pareots."

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Battle against Aids: Scientific setback as mysterious side-effects raise fears over safety of 'miracle' treatment

HIV patients disfigured by their drugs

DISFIGURING side-effects have appeared in some Aids patients which are raising concerns about the safety of the "miracle" drugs that have trans- years begin to be felt. formed the outlook for sufferers from the disease.

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Fears about the long-term effects of protease inhibitors. which are credited with saving thousands of lives, have been raised by the appearance of strange fat deposits on patients' bodies. The fat accumulates in certain places while other parts shrink to skin and bone.

Some patients have developed barrel-sbaped bellies surmounted by a wasted face and stick-like arms and legs. Others have developed "buffalo humps" on the back of their necks - large fatty lumps which restrict movement of the head and in some cases have had to be surgically removed.

Specialists fear that as Aids patients survive longer, the side-effects of the drugs may become more dangerous than their benefits. The disease may also be changing, as the consequences of suppressing the

BY JEREMY LAURANCE Health Editor

virus with drugs over many

The protease inhibitors, introduced in 1996, converted Aids from a fatal condition to a chronic survivable one, but they are known to raise sugar and fat levels in the blood which may increase the risk of diabetes and heart disease. Estimates of the number of patients affected range up to 60 per cent, although only 5 per cent are thought to have noticeable symptoms. An early report of 18 cases, all from the US, was published in *The Lancet* in March.

Dr Margaret Johnson, an Aids specialist at the Royal Free Hospital, Londoo, said a "significant" number of her patients had developed the strange fatty deposits. "We know the protease inhibitors have had the greatest impact in terms of survival. For patients with advanced disease there is little choice but to take them. But we don't know their longterm effects and there is an risks. But we are concerned."

issue about when treatment should start." She said the dilemma was how long to delay treatment without risking the immune system breaking down.

about side-effects was deterring people who could benefit from the drugs. A spokesman for the don said: "They think their only option is a drug that will give them a paunch and a hump. But if they monitor themselves and find something happening that they don't like there are 14

other drugs they can use." In the US, the Food and Drugs Administration is investigating the side-effects. A spokesman said: "We don't want to alarm people because we think the benefits of protease inhibitors outweigh the

virus over a long period. Aids organisations said fear Aids Treatment Project in Lon-

Tony Pinching, professor of immunology at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, said the disfiguring side-effects had also been seen in patients taking other drugs, and might be a result of suppressing the

> MARTIN'S WAIST expanded by four inches and the weight fell off his arms and legs during the 18 months be was taking the Aids drug indinavir.

"I felt I looked like a Biafran child. I developed a pot-belly and because I had lost weight everywhere else I looked ridiculous. I had to buy new clothes and I felt very uncomfortable." Discomfort was not his only cause for worry. His

BY JEREMY LAURANCE

cholesterol level shot up. and his triglycerides - a measure of the sugar in his blood - shot up to more than four times the normal level, increasing his risk of heart disease and diabetes.

His consultant agreed that be should come off the drug. whose brand-name is Crixivan. last February, as first reports of "Crix belly" emerged from the

US. He is now taking another protease inhibitor, nelfinavir.

'I am nowhere near as distended as I was. I didn't get the buffalo hump on my neck that some people have, but I might well have done if I had continued on the drug."

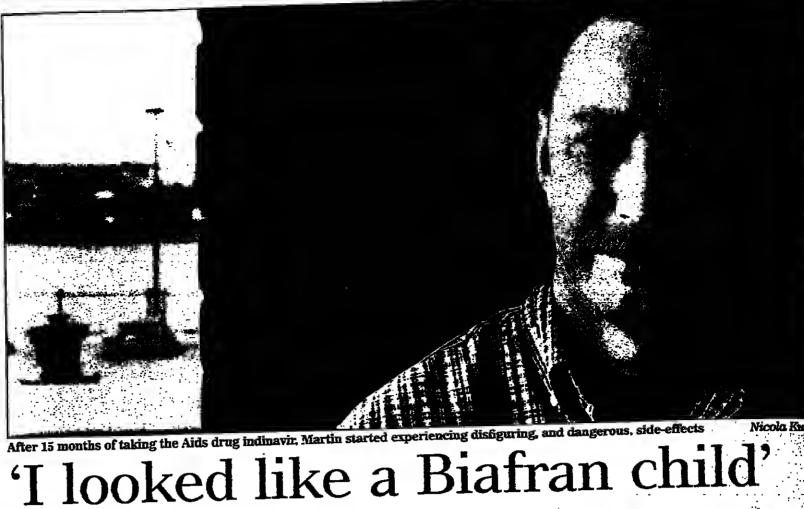
Aged 33. Martin was diagnosed with HIV in 1994 and was started on indinavir in August 1996. He first noticed his body changing in October 1997. The

experience has changed his view of so-called Aids "wonder" drugs. There is no doubt that they have extended survival, but they are not a cure, he says.

When I started on them I believed they would enable me to live a more fulfilling life. But all they have done is protect me from one set of illnesses (associated with Aids] by making me susceptible to another set." Martin is an accountant, but

has not worked for two years because of his illness. His main concern now is to reduce the levels of fat and sugar in his hlood. He has been put on a strict diet but if it doesn't work he may have to resort to drugs.

"I am desperately fighting to get those down. My GP said she had never seen a patient with triglycerides as high as mine." Martin's surname has been withheld at his request.



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The lost art of walking

THE AVERAGE Briton is making an extra 203 car journeys a year but taking 22 fewer walks than 10 years ago, Government figures say. Car trips have risen almost 50 per cent in 20 years.

Fears raised over new Arts Council:

BY DAVID LISTER Arts News Editor

ANGEL OF the North sculptor Amony Gormiey and ballet dancer Deborah Bull are among those joining a s'immed-down, new-look Arts Council of England

But vesterday's appointments to the new celebritylined council, which will distribute around £400m in grant and lottery money, were quarters of the arts world.

One former council member. who did not wish to be named. pointed out that Ms Buil a Royal Ballet dancer is an employee of the Arts Council's biggest client, the Royal Opera House. And Antony Gormley's Angel Of the North sculpture received £531,000 of lottery money.

The council's new chairman. Gerry Robinson, wanted to streamline the decision-making process at the arts-funding body and the number of members has been halved to 10. He said the new members had been appointed for their breadth of knowledge.

A spokeswoman said yesterday: "It would not be sensible for the Arts Council to dissociate itself from the very people who are active in the world in which it operates. And we have a strict code of practice which requires

an actor and sculptor.

IN BRIEF

Male model loses sex-bias case

A MALE artists' model has lost a sex discrimination case against a college. George Bond, 54, of Northampton, claimed that Northampton College was giving the lion's share of work

to female models. He said yesterday that an industrial tri-

bunal, held in Bedford, had ruled against him. "I'm disap-

pointed that I didn't win. I thought I might," said Mr Bond,

who represented himself at a three-day bearing which hegan

last month. "I think I may pack this side of the business in

and concentrate on other things," he added. Mr Bond is also

Cookery on the menu for children

NEARLY two thirds of British 12-year-olds have never boiled

an egg, school-food campaigners said yesterday, as celebri-

ty cooks Michael Barry, Jane Asher and Sophie Grigson joined

food writer Prue Leith at Primrose Hill Primary School.

London, to launch a campaign to teach children about food.

The Royal Society of Arts, spearheading the campaign, wants cookery included in the main National Curriculum by 2003.

Rail services returned to normal yesterday after an accident

involving a high-speed train led to a fleet of express locomotives

being withdrawn from service. Great North Eastern Railway

(GNER) withdrew more than 30 express units after an Edin-

hurgh train with nearly 500 passengers derailed at 100mph

in Bedfordshire on Tuesday evening. Crash investigators

believe that a cracked wheel may bave been to blame.

Train services back on track



Deborah Bull: Employee of council's biggest client

members to declare interests." She added that the lottery award for Angel Of The North went to Gateshead Council not

Gormley personally. Commenting on the new line-up, Stephen Phillips, who resigned this week as chairman of the Arts Council's touring panel, said: "I very much enjoy the work of the artists that have been brought in, but I worry about whether their diaries will enable them to attend sufficiently."

William Weston, general manager of the Royal Shake speare Company added: "With auch a small number of people, it is difficult to cover all the cultural ground."

The make-up of the new panel was amounced yesterday the Arts Foundation.

by Chris Smith, Secretary of State for Culture, who said: "I am particularly pleased that a number of artists and performers of international standing bave committed their time and expertise to the council. What all its members have in common is the ability to offer expert understanding and committed leadership to the arts in

this country."
Mr Robinson said: "This. blend will without doubt provide. vision, strategic thinking and decisive leadership on behalf of artists, arts organisations and audiences throughout England."

The new council comprises six fresh appointments and four members chosen to serve again. The new appointments are: Derrick Anderson, chief executive of Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council; Deborah Bull; Antony Gormiey. Anish Kapoor, sculptor; Joanna MacGregor, concert pianist and professor of music at Gresham College, London; and Hi-. lary Strong, director of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

The reappointments are: David Brierley former general manager of the Royal Shakespeare Company, Christopher Frayling, director of the Royal College of Art; Andrew Motion, poet and biographer; and Prue Skene, until recently director of

Warming target accepted

BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY Environment Correspondent

BRITAIN ACCEPTED a tough new target yesterday for reducing emissions of carbon dioxide, the exhaust gas from motor vehicles and power stations believed to be one of the principal causes of global warming.

The target, agreed at an EU meeting in Luxembourg. means a cutback in the UK's emissions to 12.5 per cent

This will inevitably mean less car use, a substantial increase in electricity-saving by industry and home-owners, and more reliance on alternative energy

The forthcoming transport White Paper being planned by

below their 1990 level by 2010.

sources, such as solar power.

the Deputy Prime Minister. John Prescott, will be the key instrument in delivering the necessary motoring cutbacks. These will be achieved through a combination of higher fuel: taxes and better public transport. A substantial Government campaign on energy efficiency can be expected soon.

· High fees put fat-cat QCs in the dock

BY IAN BURRELL Home Affairs Correspondent

BARRISTERS YESTERDAY ridiculed claims that they should earn only £200,000 a year from legal aid. Sydney Kentridge QC, for the Bar Council, said that it was "verging on the absurd" to set such a limit on their take-home pay. The claim came as the barristers mounted a rearguard action at an inquiry into the controversially large fees earned in criminal legal aid cases by senior

Four barristers, including the leading human rights lawyer Michael Mansfield QC, are the aubject of the inquiry which began yesterday at the House of Lords, the highest court in the land, over bills they have submitted in such cases.

It was revealed that Mr Mansfield had his fee cut by the House of Lords taxing officer by 45 per cent - from £22,300 to £12,300 - for work done on an unsuccessful appeal last year against a murder conviction. In total, his team submitted a hill for £62,000 which was cut to £31,500.

But the clerk to the parliaments. Michael Davies, felt that the Mansfield team's fees - together with legal-aid bills submitted by three other QCs involved in House of Lords appeals - were atill too high.

Yesterday, five Law Lords began hearing evidence in a two-day inquiry into how such fees were calculated. Their ruling could have widespread implications for the legal-aid earnings of QCs, which critics have said are running out of

But the Bar Council, represented by Sydney Kentridge QC, one of the country's leading advocates, argued yesterday that the Law Lords should deal only with the four cases in question and said that they had no right to try to peg barristers' earnings to those of other professionals.

Mr Kentridge said: "The great majority of the members of the bar who do legal aid work, work very, very hard for a renumeration which is accepted as reasonable hut certainly is not extravagant."

But Lord Browne-Wilkinson, chairing the hearing, said evidence had been submitted that there had been "enormous growth" in legal aid fees, which were rising at a rate "miles above inflation". He said it appeared that the whole system of fix-

ing less may need to be reformed. The inquiry heard that evidence submitted by the Lord Chancellor's Department showed that legal aid earnings in the year 1995-96 had reached £286m, an increase of

£100m from the previous year Lawrence Collins, solicitor ad-



Michael Mansfield QC leaving the inquiry in south London into the murder of Stephen Lawrence, in which be is acting for the black teenager's family . Tom Pilston

ety, submitted evidence suggesting that the earnings of top barristers should be brought into line with lead-

ing hospital consultants. Mr Collins said that consultants could earn around £200,000 a year, including the value of pension and other benefits, which would be suf-

risters did not leave the profession.

Mr Kentridge had argued that such comparisons could not be carried out by taxing officers - the trained assessors who vet every legal-aid bill - or the Law Lords.

"The idea that a taxing master in fixing a fee for a particular case gation for the Lord Chancellor, Trea- a graduated fees structure. Only stx merely bank, they bite", he said.

proper au mail income should be for a barrister is verging on the absurd," he said. "Not only that, [that] he

"It is no doubt a proper investi-

it can't be gone into by a taxing master, it can't even be gone into by a court, not even by your Lordships." should inform himself of what surgeons should earn goes over the line

He said that the fees in most crim-

straitiackets to ansure the staff can cope - as you may have

seen on ITN. There are institutions like this in other Balkan

states. VSO are working with the Macedonian authorities to

vocate representing the Law Soci-ficient incentive to ensure that bar-should take into account what the sury, government or parliament. It to ten cases a year were referred for appeal to the House of Lords and the is the sort of matter which a contr mission of inquiry should go into. But taxing officers were fully capable of assessing whether fees claimed amounted to "reasonable renumeration". He said the system was not in need of reform. The taxing officers inal legal aid cases were subject to who judged such claims did "not

CASES WHERE BILLS WERE CUT

Michael Mansfield's team submitted a bill for £62,000 following a three-day appeal hearing against the murder convictions of Gary Mills and Tony Poole. The fee was cut in half to £31,500 by the House of Lords.

The two men were convicted in 1990 of the murder of Hensley Wiltshire after a fight in a Gloucester squat. The appeal was dismissed. Mr Mansfield's personal fee

was cut by the House of Lords taxing officer, James Vallance White, from £22,300 to £12,300. His junior counsel, Vera Baird, had her fees cut from £22,537.50 to £7,850.

Peter Feinberg QC submitted a £37,000 bill for an unsuccessful appeal which was heard over three days in

February last year. His bill was cut by the House of Lords taxing officer to £16.000

Richard Henriques QC

claimed £28,500 for his work in a appeal in April of last year, his bill is being reviewed. He led the table of QCs earnings

from legal aid in 1995-6 with more than £500,000. He was listed in the 1996-7 top 20 legalaid earners, as earning between £350,000 to £399,000.

Christopher Sallon QC claimed £34.600 for his work in freeing Philip English, whose conviction and life sentence

for the murder of police

Sergeant Bill

Forth was quashed. But after scrutiny by House of Lords officials he was only paid £21,600.

Spielberg tops the list of successful directors

By Steve Boggan

STEVEN SPIELBERG has emerged as the most successful film director of all time in a poll of 1,500 movie industry insiders and cinema buffs, including President Bill Clinton.

The poll, organised by the American Film Institute, ended predictably - with Orson Welles's Citizen Kane in the Number One slot - but Spielberg had no fewer than five titles in the top 100.

The director, who has often craved greater critical acclaim, saw his epic Schindler's List make the number nine position on the list while ET – the Extra-

Terrestrial was voted 25th, Jaws 48th, Raiders of the Lost Ark 60th and Close Encounters of the Third Kind 64th.

Movie critics hailed Schindler's List's ranking as a considerable achievement for Spielberg given that the other top 10 films had atood the test of time well. As well as Citizen Kan (1941), the other top 10 films were: Casablanca (1942); The Godfather (1972); Gone With the Wind (1939); Lawrence of Arabia (1962); The Wizard of Oz (1939); The

terfront (1954); and Singin' in the Rain (1952). The film institute refused to

each movie polled or what criteria were involved. It did say, however, that voters were asked to choose from 400 films dating back to 1912 - a silent version of Richard III - select-

ed by its own panel of experts. Alfred Hitchcock and Billy Wilder each had four films in the top 100. Hitchcock's entries were Psycho (18); North by Northwest (40); Rear Window (42) and Vertigo (61). Wilder's were Sunset Boulevard (12); Some Like It Hot (14); Double Graduate (1967); On the Wa-Indemnity (38) and The Apart-

Most of the movies in the top

say exactly who was on the list 100 were dramas. In addition of 1,500 voters, how many votes there were 11 comedies, eight musicals, nine war movies, eight westerns, four science fiction films and four horror movies. Two were animated features, both from Disney, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (49) and Fantasia (58).

Marlon Brando starred in two of the top 10 movies. The Godfather and On the Waterfront, while James Stewart and Robert DeNiro had the most starring roles in the top 100 with five each. The most successful actress was Katharine Hephurn with four films. Natalie Wood, Diane Keaton and Faye Dunaway had three each.

The critics' 100 best films

1 Citizen Kone 1941
2 Casablanca 1942
3 The Godfather 1972
4 Gone With the Wind 1939
5 Laurence of Arabia 1962
5 The Wizard of Oz 1939
7 The Graduate 1967
8 On the Water front 1954
9 Schindler's List 1993
10 Strain' in the Rain 1952 9 SCHMULET 8 LIST 1993 10 Singin' in the Rain 1952 11 It's a Wonderful Life 1946 12 Sunset Boulevard 1950 13 The Bridge on the River Kwai 1957 14 Some Like It Hot 1959 16 All About Eve 1950 17 The African Queen 1951 18 Psycho 1960 19 Chinotown 1974 20 One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest 1975 21 The Grapes of Wrath 1940 22 2001: A Space Odyssey 1968 23 The Mallese Falcan 1941

24 Raging Bull 1980

25 ET, the Extra-Terrestrial 1982 26 Dr Strangelove 1964 27 Bonnie and Clyde 1967 28 Apocalypse Now 1979 29 Mr Smith Goes to Washington 1939 30 The Treasure of the Sierra Madre 1948 31 Annie Hall 1977 31 Annie Hall 1971
32 The Godfather Part II 1974
33 High Noon 1952
34 To Kill a Mockingbird 1962
35 It Happened One Night 1934
36 Midnight Cauboy 1989
37 The Best Years of Our Lives

38 Double Indemnity 1944 39 Doctor Zhivago 1965 40 North by Northwest 1959 41 West Side Story 1961 41. west Suce Surry 1997
42 Rear Window 1954
43 King Kong 1933
44 The Birth of a Nation 1915
45 A Streetcar Named Desire

46 A Clockwork Отапде 1971

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47 Taxi Driver 1976 Dwarfs 1937 50 Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid 1969 51 The Philadelphia Story 1940 52 From Here to Eternity 1953 53 Amadeus 1984 54 All Quiet on the Western Front 1930: 55 The Sound of Music 1965 56 M-A-S-H 1970 57 The Third Man 1949 58 Fantasia 1940 59 Rebel Wilhout a Cause 1955 60 Raiders of the Lost Ark 1981 61 Vertigo 1958 62 Tootsie 1982 63 Stagecoach 1939 64 Close Encounters of the Third Kind 1977 -65 The Silence of the Lambs 66 Network 1976

68 An American in Paris 1951

70 The French Connection

69 Shane 1953

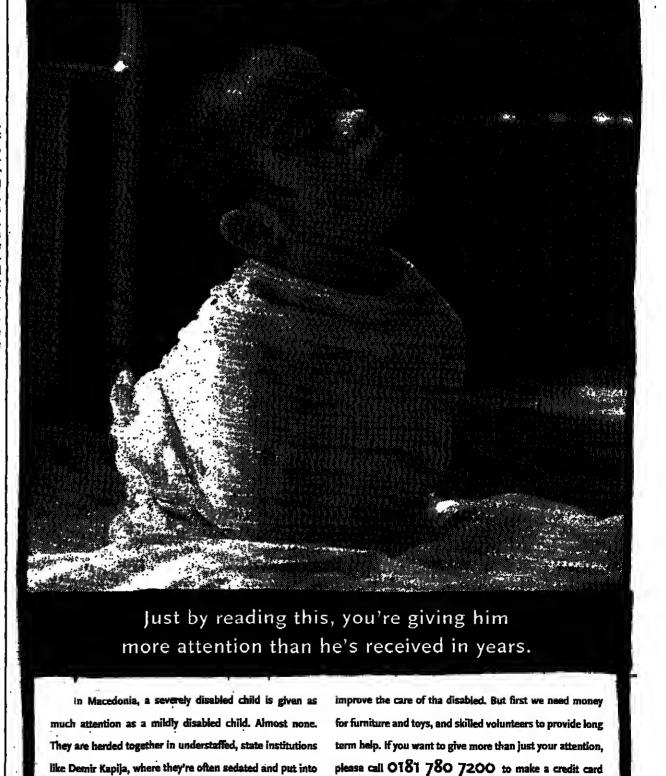
71 Forrest Gump 1994
72 Ben-Hur 1959
73 Wuthering Heights 1939
74 The Gold Rush 1925
75 Dances With Wolves 1980
76 City Lights 1931
77 American Graffiti, 1973
78 Rocky 1976
79 The Deer Hunter 1978
80 The Wild Bunch 1960 80 The Wild Bunch 1969 81 Modern Times 1936 83 Platoon 1988 84 Furgo 1996 85 Duck Soup 1933 86 Mutiny on the Bounty 1935 87 Frankenstein 1931 88 Easy Rider 1969 89 Pation 1970 90 The Jazz Singer 1927 91 My Fair Lady 1964 92 A Place in the Sun 1951 93 The Apartment 1960 94 Goodfellas 1990 95 Pulp Fiction 1994 96 The Searchers 1956 97 Bringing Up Baby 1938 98 Unforgiven 1992 99 Guess Who's Coming to Din-

100 Yankee Doodle Dandy, 1942

MAX CLIFFORD

throughout her trials in the United States, and she must keep it with her now'

THURSDAY REVIEW, PAGE 4



THE FORGOTTEN CHILDREN OF MACEDONIA AND THE BALKANS APPEAL

donation. Make your cheque payable to Voluntary Services Overseas and send to: VSO, Room MD 38,

The public has been behind Louise

Manchester crisis: Oftsed inspectors criticise authority for neglecting duty by losing track of excluded children

The city that lets down its pupils

ONE OF England's largest local education authorities has failed in its legal duty because it has no idea what happened to 140 excluded pupils, according to a highly critical inspectors' report published today

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In response, Stephen Byers, the school standards minister. told Manchester City Council to take urgent action to protect some of its most vulnerable

Inspectors from the Office for Standards in Education found that the city, which has a moved from school rolls. statutory duty to ensure that all its children receive schooling. was unable to say what education was being provided for 140 excluded pupils. Yet there are 12,000 surplus places in Manchester which cost the authorlty about £2m a year.

The report, the first in a programme of local authority inspections carried out under new powers introduced last year. catalogues a series of failures. While there is "glamour and affluence" in the regenerated city centre, that is not matched in struggling districts where some of the poorest people in England are concentrated.

Inspectors say: ■ Too many pupils are truanting too frequently:

School hudget deficits are 26,2m, the highest in England: Exclusions are running at 10 a day with one school temporarily excluding 782 pupils in three years:

Standards of achievement

The duty to meet the needs of children with special educational problems is being breached. Despite recent improve-

BY JUDITH JUDD Education Editor

ments in its schools and teaching standards which are higher than the national average, the city was 110th out of 132 local education authorities last year in English tests at 11 and 127th for GCSE performance.

Attendance is running at 84 per cent in secondary schools. nearly 7 per cent below the national average, and too many truanting pupils are simply re-

Mr Byers said: "There are 70,000 children being educated in Manchester schools. They need a far better deal than they are getting." He demanded a report within a month on bow the authority intended to meet its statutory responsibilities.

But senior government sources pointed out that the report was less damning than last year's on the borough of Hacknev in east London.

Inspectors note that there is -no mistaking the political will for change and improvement Manchester". They also paint a stark picture of social problems in a city where 40 per cent of children are in households where no one has a job.

Richard Leese, the city council's leader, said they would respond positively but added that the report "wold not win any prizes for the quality of its research". He added: "Exclusion is not a problem unique to Manchester. It has been identified as a major problem by the Government and the Prime Minister has committed himself to helping local education authorities tackle the problem."



South Manchester High School has a glowing Ofsted report, but it was earned against all the odds, the head teacher says

THE WORST SCHOOLS

How Manchester's worst three state schools tare in terms of: number of pupils; % of pupils with 5 or more GSCEs at grades A*-C; and truency (% half-days lost.



School for Boys Pupils - 696; GCSEs -8%: truancy - 0.1%



Moston Brook High Pupils - 494; 6%; 41%



Spuriey Hey High Pupils - 697/6%/61%

Manchester average GCSEs 26.3%; truency 2.9% National average GCSEs 45.1%; truancy 10%;

'The council needs a kick up the rear'

THE PUDDLES were deep and wide on the approach to the school, its flat roofs were heavy with rain water

"We leak and we flood whenever there is a downpour like the one we had today:" said head teacher Phil Taylor.

The roofs are the responsibility of the local education authority and if money for the repairs has already been spent. it's gone, unless we find it ourseives," he added.

Mr Taylor, 51, has been head of South Manchester High School in Withenshaw for 10

years. He heard the news of the he said, against all the odds. damning school inspectors report on how Manchester City Council runs its education service without any ohvious surprise. "Whenever a school is deemed to be failing the head is usually forced to resign. Perhaps council officers and politicians should be considering their position now. And why

not?" he asked. His own school, with 450 pupils and a hudget of about film, has a glowing Ofsted report, recording good progress in all classes, that was earned.

More than a third of his stadents have special needs. For example. 94 per cent of pupils who enter the school have Ettle or any of the expected reading ability of that age. Truaccy was a problem, he said, but it was one that could not baidly be blamed on the school.

Schools are held responsihie for attendance, but the reasons for absenteeism are often beyond our control such as poverty and unemployment. A lot of absenteeism is condoned by parents, who will keep a child

help in the family maybe because of sickness or to look after the younger ones."

But exclusions are rare, "We have a code which sets down the boundaries of behaviour accepted by students and pareris." said Mr Taylor "It works well and when we first lamched it we had 200 encuiries from other schools, including some from abroad."

The school faces amalgamation with another small school because it has surplus places. "One good thing about

at home because they need being half-empty is that is gives us room to move about if we have trouble with flooding or a leak," added Mr Taylor.

But intake is up by 40 per cent for next year because of their latest Ofsted report, said Mr Taylor, which highlights good classroom relationships. teachers' trust and respect for pupils, and students in turn feeling valued and having a sense of self-worth. Parents' response to the Government's verdict on the city's education service has been almost wholehearted

Linda Fleming, 43, who has a son Ryan, 11, who is about to go to secondary school, said the council needed a "kick up the rear". She added: "I'm concerned that so much money can be spent on a place like the new Arndale Centre and yet so many of our schools are in such bad condition."

Beverley Dore, 41, said she was concerned for the future of her eight-year-old son Scott."I -am worried about what there is for him at school if it can't manage the problems of truancy and exclusions."

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Eco-warriors' protests 'risking super weeds'

who tear up fields of geneticallymodified (GM) crops could be belping to create the "superweeds" that they fear, the Government warned yesterday.

So far this year, 21 trial sites of GM plants in Britain have been hit by "eco-warriors". That latest was an attack by Fife Earth First! on a field of genetically-modified oilseed rape resistant to berbicide on an Edinburgh farm. Protesters tore up plants in a field to form giant "X" shape bundreds of feet across, and left behind an

But the Department of the Environment (DoE) warned that if the plants have already blossomed and produced pollen, then people who walk in and out of the fields could inadvertently carry that pollen cause EC law insists that the looutside the "boundary separa- cations must be published, and

ENVIRONMENTAL protesters BY CHARLES ARTHUR Technology Editor

> tion areas". There it would be able to cross-breed with other plants and weeds, potentially creating new weeds resistant to herbicides.

The eco-warriors may be themselves responsible for something that they are against." said a spokesman. Biotechnology companies

are stepping up security around their experimental fields of genetically-modified (GM) crops, after the Edin-burgh protest. Some are considering whether to lobby the Government to change the rules on trials of GM plants, so locations can be kept secret. But the DoE said yesterday that that would be impossible, besympathetic to calls for change. Biotechnology companies

there are tests of GM plants a trial is in." running at about 300 locations around Britain. Each one is ence in a public register that is published on the Internet.

their security would be a 24hour guard," said Des D'Souza, biotechnology project director at AgrEvo UK, based in King's Lynn. "For most companies that's not practicable, especially if you have a number of sites." He did hint though that security at the company's sites which have been among those hit - had been increased.

However, Martin Ward, general manager of Advanced Technologies Cambridge (ATC), one of 14 companies

the Government would not be running trials of GM crops in Britain, said: "I think that there is an argument that people are left in a quandary, since don't need to know which field

He said that eco-protests were unproductive: "They identified with a map refer-ence in a public register that is more about these plants - that is what these trials are trying "The only way to ensure to show. We're never going to get anywhere if every time we put them in a field, it gets ripped up."

But Matthew Herbert of Fife Earth First!, responded: "If ." somebody suggested we should take an unknown substance and test its toxicity to humans by feeding it to people, you'd think they were mad. We can't release genetic pollution into the wider environment and then say it's not safe later. Genetic pollution is invisible

Universities look to GCSEs uncovered

APPLYING TO a top university such as Oxford or Cambridge? Forget it unless you have a string of A grades at GCSE.

An investigation by the Independent's Education section shows that the 16-plus exam, not A-level, increasingly holds the key to university

One independent school head this year received a letter from an Oxbridge don who said that it was beginning to look as though very few students would be accepted in future without a full set of A grades at GCSE, particularly if they came from independent schools.

Stepben Smith of Bedford Modern School for boys, who received the letter, said: "You want to make sure that if you're putting candidates in for Oxford and Cambridge they stand an

BY JUDITH JUDD

the 600,000 16-year-olds at present in the final stages of their GCSE exams is clear: firstrate A-levels may no longer be enough to secure an offer from the top universities.

Students usually apply for university two terms before they take their A-levels so the only public examination results they bave are GCSEs.

Boys' schools are particularly worried about the trend because boys do worse at GCSE than girls. Martin Stepben, head of Manchester Grammar School, said that some of the top universities were in danger of selecting "little goody two shoes without flair and creativity".

Warning to boys, Education

Memory split

that short-term and longterm memories are distinctly different states of mind, raising the prospect of developing smart drugs to help victims of senile dementia.

Brain researchers have argued for nearly a century about whether short-term memory - remembering where you left the car keys was just a step in a sequence of events leading to tongterm memory, remembering what type of car you have for

example. A new study has finally shown that remembering events over a short period of time involves quite separate chemistry in the brain to that needed for storing long-term

memory. A team led by Ivan Izquier-

SCIENTISTS HAVE shown By STEVE CONNOR

do, a neuroscientist from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil, has demonstrated for the first time that short-term and long-term memories work quite independently of one an-

In experiments on laboratory animals the researchers were able to block short-term memory with drugs that had no effect on long-term memory. The details are published

today in the journal Nature. Scientists want to work out how short-term memories are transferred into the longterm databanks of the brain in order to develop smart drugs that can help the

Warning to mothers over nut allergy

PREGNANT AND breast-feed- By JEREMY LAURANCE ing women were yesterday warned not to eat peanuts if they or their immediate families suffered allergies, amid fears for their babies' lives.

The advice was issued by the Committee on the Toxicity of Food in a report on the growth of peanut allergy in Britain. It is expected to affect up to a third of pregnant and breastfeeding women.

The report said women who suffer from common conditions such as asthma, hay fever and eczema, or whose partners or other children suffer from them, could pass on the peanut allergy to their unborn babies.

Sir Kenneth Calman, the Officer, said the advice was precautionary but based on evidence suggesting foetuses and infants exposed to peanuts were more at risk of developing idence suggesting foetuses and whole peanuts due to the risk of choking. Sir Kenneth said.

Parents of affected children

deadly. It is estimated to strike to seven deaths a year. Children are particularly at risk.

Even very small amounts can trigger a severe reaction in sensitive individuals, resulting in anaphylactic shock. Sir Kenneth said the risk of

a mother sensitising her child during pregnancy or breastfeeding had to be considered due to the known geoetic link.

i the rear

Health Editor

breast-feeding women who suffer from diagnosed allergic conditions, or where the father or any brother or sister of the child has a clinical history of such conditions, may wish to avoid eating peanuts and foods containing peanut products.

lergy in this country.

medication, usually adrena

to treat a severe reaction.

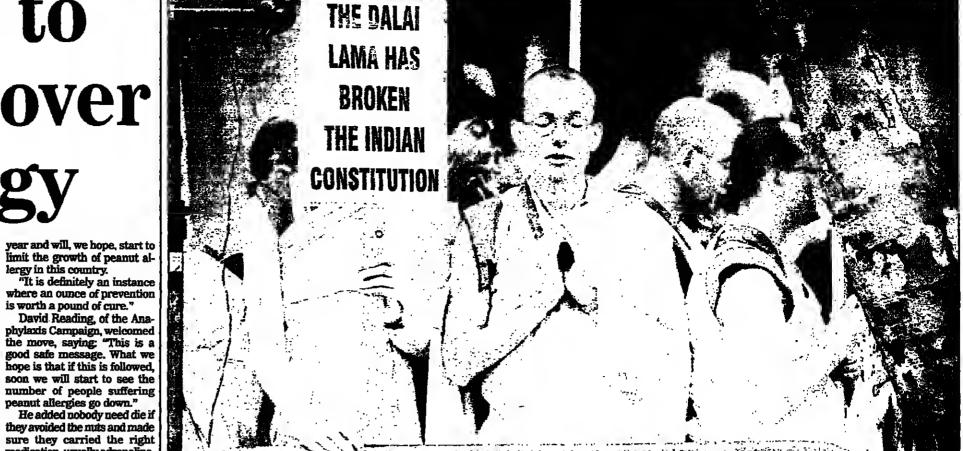
"There is no reason for pregnant or nursing mothers who do not fall into this category to avoid eating peanuts. Refined peanut oils or vegetable oils are unlikely to cause a problem." Families who suffer allergies

are being advised to prevent their children eating foods containing peanuts until they are Government's Chief Medical three years old. And oo child under five, irrespective of their family history, should be given whole peanuts due to the risk

Parents of affected children were urged to read labels care-Peanut allergy is rare but fully in case products contained traces of peanuts, and to avoid one person in 200 and cause five accidental cross-contamination when preparing food at home. The Ministry of Agriculture launched a campaign last November urging more care in labelling food containing peanuts.

Sir Kenneth added that eating peanuts remained safe for the "overwhelming majority" of the population,

"The advice will go a long way towards helping prevent "The committee is there- the handful of dramatic and fore advising that pregnant or tragic deaths we do see each



لكذا من ألاصل

Leaflets are being sent to all | Buddhist monks hold a vigil at the Indian High Commission in London yesterday to call on the Dalai Lama to lift his doctrinal ban on the GPs with details of the advice. | Buddhist deity Dorje Shugden. The protesters say the ban contravenes Indian and international human rights legislation Andrew Buurman

Dinosaur dung yields diet secrets

A RARE insight into the table BY STEVE CONNOR rex - the biggest carnivore to stalk the land - is revealed today by a scientific analysis of the dinosaur's fossilised dung.

A loaf-sized fragment of ancient faeces, which scientists describe as "king size", shows that T rex crushed the bones of its victims into tiny fragments before swallowing each

The fossil, called a coprolite, has also revealed that Trex was unlikely to have suffered from indigestion. Bone fragments in the faeces were only partially dissolved, indicating that the acids in the dinosaur's stomach were relatively weak.

It is the first time that scientists have been able to study fossilised faeces that they know have come from a T rex.

The fossil was found in the Canadian province of Saskatchewan in 1995 and the analysis is published in the journal

Trex - considered to be the king of the dinosaurs - left behind equally impressive calling cards. The "tremendous size" of the faecal mass meant it could only have come from the world's largest predator, the sci-

Timothy Tokaryk, a palaeon tologist at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum in Regina, said the coprolite is the larges from any dinosaur and the first from a meat-eating species. "For the first time it gives us a greater insight into the internal workings of a creature that died more than 65 million years ago," he said.

"Before this coprolite was found we were still guessing from the front end of the animal what it did with its prey. Now we have confirmation from what it left behind."

Trer lacked grinding molar teeth, and so could not chew its food. The research confirms that it managed to pulverise each mouthful into tiny pieces

with the immense force of its bite acting on its huge peg-like

Analysis of the bones in the coprolite show T rex's victim was probably a young herbivorous dinosaur that would have been about the size of a cow.

Dr Gregory Erickson, a alacomologist at Stanford University in California, said the victim was probably an adolescent, which suggests that Trez was an active predator of healthy prey rather than a humbering scavenger of old and sick



T Rex crushed bones before swallowing

animals, which some dinosaur experts have suggested. Much of the crushed bone in the coprolite escaped damage, suggesting digestive juices of dinosaurs were very different

from those of crocodiles, which dissolve the bones they eat. Peter Andrews, a coprolite researcher at the Natural History Museum in London, believes the bone in the faecal matter is in such pristine con-

sufficiently preserved for molecular analysis. "The study of fossil faeces may seem rather a strange subject, but it can reveal much about dinosaur behaviour," Dr Andrews said.

dition that its DNA might be

LORD TEBBIT

'In the European Union our masters are intent on reducing independent nations into mere provinces of a state called Europe'

— THE THURSDAY REVIEW, PAGE 4



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SUT UCI BR. Su 2000 6pm. Willia

How Tony and friends put the world right in a weekend

his usual 30 minutes of questions but was kept in detention after school for an extra hour.

He had been playing truant for two days on a Euro-bash in Cardiff with his mates Jacques Santer, Jacques Chirac and Helmut Kohl and a few others who had come over for a long weekend.

They were having a party to mark the end of Mr Blair's six months as President of the European Union Council of Ministers.

The Speaker and the House authorities wanted him to give an account of this party and tell members of Parliament what had been

was comfortable and there was a TV and a mini bar in every room.

"Cardiff itself looked marvellous and did great credit to Wales and this country" Mr Blair told the

I could have thought of better places to take my very important friends if I was President of the council, but it seemed Mr Blair inherited the hooking from the Tories. William Hague told him that he decided on Cardiff when he was Secretary of State for Wales.

It seemed that Mr Blair and his friends did not do much sightseeing, what with the recent bad

THE PRIME Minister came to the going on Apparently they all had a Weather and the heavy rain meant House of Commons yesterday for splendid time in Cardiff. The hotel they had to stay indoors most of the they had to stay indoors most of the time. Nobody had remembered to bring any jigsaw puzzles so they just chatted about all the problems of the world - most of which they couldn't do anything about.

They chuntered about a place called Kosovo which none of them wanted to visit. Things are in a dreadful state there. The hotel's not being what they were.

In fact, Mr Blair has written to complain to the head of the local tourist office (A fellow called Milosevic who has let the whole thing go to rack and ruin.

They had a good old natter about but it seemed this all came to noth-Turkey as part of what Mr Blair ing. Similarly, they denounced India

The Sketch



called an "enlargement debate"

everywhere and crime getting out of hand. Anyway after a couple of days they started getting on each others nerves. Helmut cut up rough about his share of the food and drinks bill and wanted his money

hack. William Hague was jealous because he had not been invited and said it had all been a waste of time: "We know the Prime Minister has always wanted to be a president. What a shame he made a mess of it when he had the chance."

Mr Hague had read reports in all the foreign papers which said they had all had a dreadful time and the food was awful. Blair retorted that

and Pakistan, talked about drugs he had read the foreign papers and they all said Helmut and Jacques had had a marvellous time. Before Mr Blair's extra hour in

the Commons it was business as usual for his regular question time. Creep of the Week Award goes to Dr Tony Wright (Lab. Cannock) who asked the Prime Minister if he would congratulate himself on giving an honour to Geoff Hurst. Even Mr Blair cringed and the House

THOSE were the days, in the Wilson era, when England won the World Cup and the only riots were to avoid being kissed by Nobby Styles without his teeth in.

These days, our lads are made of sterner stuff. If we are to believe Alan Clark, they are fighting Johnnie Foreigner on the beaches, and in the car parks. These are the same heroic figures, according to Clark the historian, who defeated the

French at Agincourt Today, Henry V would have sacked the lot after filling the breach. Quite right. Mr Clark heard the Prime Minister urging employers to give the hooligans the red card when they returned from their sojourn in France, and strolled out with the air of the Man who Broke the Bank at Monte Carlo. I wooder whether he has a tattoo of the St George cross on his stomach?

Blair in Ulster plea to **Tories**

TONY BLAIR yesterday made a BY COLIN BROWN direct appeal to the Tories to maintain their bipartisan support for the Northern Ireland peace deal as ministers sought to head-off a vote against the Bill to allow the early release of terrorist prisoners in the Com-

William Hague's office last night issued a statement reaffirming the Shadow Cahinet's support for the bi-partisan approach to Northern Ireland but expressing its "disappointment and concern" that the Government was refusing to accept Tory changes to the legislation.

Ministers fear the Tory opposition to the release of prisoners as part of the Good Friday peace deal could unravel the package, and there is threat that the Tory peers could wreck the legislation in the Lords.

The Tories are threatening to vote against the Northern AND DAISY SAMPSON

quire decommissioning of terrorist weapons to begin before prisoners can be released. Andrew MacKay, the Tory spokesman on Northern Ireland, said last night: "We intend to vote against the third reading of the Bill because it is fatally flawed unless there are substantial amendments.

Mr MacKay denied the Tories were threatening to break the bipartisan approach. but Downing Street and the Prime Minister reinforced the message that Labour in opposition had maintained the bipartisan approach, in spite of criticism, and they expected the Tories to do the same.

In an attempt to avert a vote against the legislation. Mo Mowlam. Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, was incause they claim it fails to re- tions with David Trimble, the decommissioning of weapons "We supported the previous acceptance by the Loyal Orders Northern Ireland as well."



The Sinn Feinn leaders Martin McGuinness, Baibre de Brun and Gerry Adams at the launch in Belfast of the party's manifesto yesterday

Ulster Unionist leader, to amend the Bill before its third reading tonight. It appeared that Mr Trimble may have been satisfied by the deal.

Two amendments have been agreed by Ms Mowlam placing an obligation on the Secretary of State to follow specific criteria over the release of prisoners, and a third will appear on the Commons order paper today requiring the Secretary of State to "implement" the Ireland (Sentences) Bill be- volved in 11th-hour negotia- agreement, which links port he reminded Mr MacKay:

with the release of prisoners. Mr Blair told MPs: "Those parts of the package which relate to decommissioning have to be obeyed."

He told Mr MacKay that the agreement on which the people of Northern Ireland voted in the referendum could not be rewritten in any way, but he added: "We will look very, very carefully at any amendments that are tabled." Rebuking the Opposition, for its lack of sup-

of the commission's determigovernment through thick and thin on this. As Northern Ireland's

marching season approaches. Adam Ingram. Minister of State at the Northern Ireland Office. told the Commons during Questions that there would be "no excuse whatsoever" for violence at the marches.

Part of a North Belfast Orange Order Parade has been rerouted and Mr Ingram praised the Order for its agreement.

nation in the re-routing of the Tour of the North parade scheduled for this Friday," he said the of us will recognise the full impact of any outbreak of violence, as we've witnessed in previous years, in the marching 5eason

"It not only damages the economic health and future well-being of Northern Ireland. it damaged the psychological and physical health and well-

Low-pay victory for Brown

THE TWO-TIER minimum By COLIN BROWN wage, with young people starting on £3 an hour and £3.60 an hour for over-25s, will be announced today in a Commons statement which will be seen as a victory for Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, to reduce the cost

In a face-saving compromise for Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, the Government has agreed to the Low Pay Commission recommended rate of £3.20 an hour for 18- to 21-yearolds, but it will be phased in over 15 months.

Meanwhile, the leader of one of the Labour Party's largest affiliates yesterday clashed with the Government over the decision to "water down" the minimum wage.

But the Chancellor told a packed meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party yesterday that if the wage was set too high it would hit jobs among young people by discouraging employers from hiring them for the "new deal" work schemes.

The Prime Minister and William Hague clashed in the Commons over vesterday's figures showing a rapid rise in wage inflation and signs of an "I would like to welcome the being of all of the people in I increase in unemployment, of industry should be cherry "The introduction now of the picked by the Government."

AND BARRIE CLEMENT

Low Pay Commission's rec ommendations is likely to make. both problems worse," said the Conservative Party leader.

Downing Street and the outline was agreed by the Cabinet. but the details of the compromise were thrashed out among a small group of key Cabinet ministers with Ian McCartney, Mrs Beckett's deputy

Ministers are confident the compromise will take the heat out of the row which has been rumbling inside the Government since the Low Pay Commission delivered its report.

Speaking at the annual conference of Unison, the public : service union, John Edmonds, leader of the GMB general. union, accused the Government of a "scandalous" attitude to recommendations from the Low Pay Commission.

He said there was no justification for making the "bave" nots" even worse off and said the decision to undermine the commission sent out the wrong message from a government committed to social inclusion. "It.; is scandalous that a unanimous. report supported by both sides

THE HOUSE



Closer ties with Brussels sought

A COMMITTEE of senior MPs called for changes in the Commons which would strengthen ties with Brussels and lead to increased scrutiny of European legislation. The Select Committee on Modernisation urged the Government to set up a National Parliament Office in Brussels by autumn 1999. 'Exclude press from rights Bill'

TORIES SOUGHT to ensure that the Press Complaints Commission was excluded from the provisions of the Human Rights

Bill. Sir Norman Fowler, shadow Home Secretary, said the Bill was "vague and uncertain" about the issue. Ocean centre £69m over budget

A NEW oceanography centre in Southamptoo opened 22 mooths late and cost £69.3m - 40 per cent more than intended, a report from the Public Accounts Committee said.

Today in the Commons

- **■** Trade and Industry Questions ■ Remaining Stages of Northern Ireland (Sentences) Bill ■ Motion on the Church of England (National Institutions) Measure
- Adjournment Debate: Closure of civic amenities sites in Northumberland (Peter Atkinson, Con, Hexham)

EU presidency was wasted, says Hague

WILLIAM HAGUE last night told BY COLIN BROWN the Prime Minister that the European Summit in Cardiff had brought to an end the British presidency of "disappointments and missed opportunities".

The Conservative leader told Tony Blair that "little or no progress has been made on the central objectives which you set for the British presidency".

Recalling that Mr Blair launched the Presidency at Waterloo Station in Londoo six months ago, Mr Hague said one of the top priorities was to get oegotiations for EU enlargement "off to a flying start".

Mr Hague said: "After six months, it looks farther away than ever'

He quoted Finnish leaders as saying enlargement was more problematic now than it was a year ago, and added that the Prime Minister had promised to tackle the "cost and weight" of the Common Agricultural Policy: "But we are no nearer to fundamental reform of the CAP" Mr Hague claimed.

Mr Hague said: "One European leader told me in Cardiff that during this presidency he has had his photograph taken more often than ever before, but was oever asked to reach a substantive decision.

"For all your fine words, at the end of the British presidency we are left with the cost and weight of the CAP cootinuing to grow year by year."

But the Prime Minister yesterday hailed the Cardiff Eurosummit as marking "a solid step forward towards a more effective and better accepted European Union".

In a detailed Commoos statement, he claimed Britain's six-month presidency had reestablished strong, positive relations with its EU partners.

In a sideswipe at the previous Tory Government, Mr Blair said: "After years of oegative and destructive posturing that isolated Britain in Europe hut did not advance our interests,

we have re-established strong positive relations with our EU partners. I believe those relations, not before time, are

transformed and for the better. "That is good for Britain, for Europe and for Britain in Europe. Cardiff was the proof of

Sidestepping the question of Britain's cotry to the European single currency, Mr Blair's statement covered the four main themes of the summit: economic reform and employment; enlargement and the necessary accompanying policy reforms; the future develcoment of the EU; and foreign

policy issues, notably Kosovo. 'We also discussed a range of other questions which touch the lives of ordinary people: the environment, crime and drugs, the millennium bug."

Other subjects discussed included the Middle East peace process, India and Pakistan, Indonesia, East Timor, and Northern Ireland, as well as the problem of drugs

Rosyth was sold for a tenth of its value

THE CONSERVATIVE govern- BY FRAN ABRAMS ment sold the Rosyth Naval Base for little more than onetenth of its market value, the Government's spending watchdog said vesterday in a critical report on Ministry of Defence property sales.

Although Rosyth 2000, the consortium which bought the Scottish base, bid £9.5m for it in an open competition, it later heat the price down to just over £1m. It won a reduction of £4.5m for the cost of changing the electric supply and other infrastructure works, £2.78m for decontamination work and £1.15m for a change in the area of land leased back to the department

The ministry had admitted it should have done more to maintain "competitive tension" between the consortium and other hidders in the 22 months which elapsed between the offer and completion of the deal, the report said.

The report from the National Andit Office (NAO). also revealed that cuts in military personnel since 1980 have Westminster Correspondent

not been mirrored by cuts in defence spending or by sell-offs of defence property. In the past 18 years the oumber of defence staff has dropped by 42 per cent hut net defence spending has dropped by just 22 per cent, and the size of the MoD estate by

just 18 per cent. Although further sell-offs are planned, which would bring the disposals to 31 per cent of the land held in 1980, the report says they could take some years. The ministry must find ways of completing sales more quickly, of achieving hetter prices on them and of reducing the cost of consultancy and other fees on the sales, it adds.

The NAO examined 45 individual sales of defence property and found that 22 of them were below market value. However, 21 of those were houses sold at a discount to forces staff or civilian tenants and the remaining one was of an electricity substation sold to the local electricity company for £300.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Artists on council

THE SCULPTOR Antony Gormley has been appointed to the Arts Council, it was anoounced last night by Chris Smith, the Culture, Media and Sport Secretary. Other new members will include. Deborah Bull, principal dancer with the Royal Ballet, and the artist and sculptor Anish Kapoor.

Brown departure AT A meeting of the India XI m Luxembourg on 4 the Chancellor, although chairing the meeting, was required to leave the room.

Helen Liddell confirmed to Tam Dalyell that wifen issues about member states joining the single currency were to be discussed, Gordon Brown left the room.

Raising revenue IF THE ceiling on national insurance contributions were to be abolished, says John Denham, about £4.6bn extra revenue would be raised. -

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Barbican Centre

المنافرة عن الدمل]

Clark supports English hooligans

ALAN CLARK is an unlikely champion for the British football supporter abroad. But the bon viveur, who lives in a castie and has never been to a football match in his life, yesterday unequivocally defended the English "guys" involved in the violence in Marseilles.

The level of prejudice that exists against English people both from the French police and other supporters - is so widespread that they "haven't got a chance", he said on BBC Radio 4's Today programme, adding that it was "a kind of compliment to the English martial spirit" the way other groups of supporters sought

"If you are English you are targeted, and if you are English and tough-looking and wearing an English flag - and why shouldn't you? - and if you are, you will find that not only the ordinary police target you, but there are particular groups of thugs who are set up, "said Mr Clark, the Conservative MP for Kensington and Chelsea.

You can't expect teams of supporters to stand back and be sneered at and spat at and have missiles hurled at them.

"I've never experienced a football riot, but I know that violence is endemic in these games. I've played in the Eton wall game and that was an extremely violent experience and to limit undesirable aliens.

THE WISDOM OF ALAN CLARK

You mean to say, they don't want us collecting their names and addresses because they are afraid we will hand them over to the immigration service so they can send them back to Bongo Bongo Land." (Meeting on ethnic monitoring, 1984)

"I find most of them boring, petty, malign, clumsily conspiratorial and parochial to a degree that cannot be surpassed in any part of the United Kingdom." (On local constituency associations, particularly Plymouth Sutton, then his constituency, Diaries, 1985)

"Only domestic servants apologise for things they have said." (Interview, on being asked if he would apologise for his casual resignation from the Plymouth seat in 1992)

"You cannot get a decent claret for under £100 these days."

"That podgy life-insurance risk." (On Kenneth Clarke, Diaries)

The Labour Party called for

the fact is that football matches are now a substitute for the old medieval tournaments. They are in their nature aggressive and confrontational, so it is perfectly natural that some of the fans should be no excuse for violence from

Mr Clark also attacked Sir Norman Fowler, the shadow Home Secretary, for trying to tighten up the laws restricting hooligans from travelling abroad. "I don't know why he's doing this. It is completely un-Conservative to try to restrict people's movements. It takes us back to the 18b regulations of the war, when you were trying

be colluding in an apology for the worst sort of violent hooliganism."

A spokesman for Conservative Central Office distanced itself from Mr Clark, saying: "Alan Clark's views are not those of the Conservative Party, the public and the vast majority of decent football supporters, who are united in their disgust at the actions of the football thugs in France. Sir Norman Fowler's proposed amendments to the Crime and Disorder Bill seek to give the magistrates new powers to deal with football violence. We hope the Government will accept our proposals."

Mr Clark accused politicians and the media of concentrating on the violence of the English fans and ignoring the fact that they were frequently provoked by foreign supporters.

the Conservative leader William Hague to discipline Mr "I know how camera crews Clark immediately for his rework and if they have been told marks. A Labour spokesman by their editors, just as resaid: "There can be absolutely porters on the English papers have been told by their editors, simply to focus on English misbehaviour, that is what whatever quarter Mr Hague should immediately discipline Mr Clark - otherwise he will they will do."



A lone fan yesterday in Toulouse, where England play Romania on Monday

Peter Macdiarmid

www.rac.co.uk

Toulouse gets prepared for the onslaught

THE HEADLINE of the local BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE paper, La Dépêche du Midi, in Toulouse could not have been more striking. "Mobilisation against stark contrast to police in Mar-the football booligans," it read. seilles, who originally allowed

"Toulouse on a state of alert." Beneath the headline was a photograph of muscular, plainclothed policemen, armed with batons and more, waiting at the train station for the arrival of the English supporters.

But yesterday afternoon Toulouse did not appear to be a city on a state of alert. The a flavour of what is to come. cafés and restaurants around the Piace du Capitole were beaving and the city's wide people going about their husiness. If the people of Toulouse were feeling an onslaught of English hooligans, they were not showing it.

"There is a sense of quiet determination to organise things so that people are not disrupted too much," said the British Consul General for Southwest

France, James Rawlinson. At a sandwich shop in the centre of the city, the man behind the counter shrugged when asked if he expected there to be violence from English fans arriving to watch the game against Romania on Monday. "Who knows," he said. "Yes, people are aware the English are coming to town and I think there is some concern."

Local authorities have been making preparations to avoid a repeat of Marseilles. The mayor of Toulouse, Dominique

seilles, who originally allowed bars to remain open until 4am.

There have been reports that up to 2,000 English supporters are already in Toulouse, but if they are, they are keeping well hidden. A Union Jack, draped from a hotel window, was noticeable in its singularity but perhaps gave

Many supporters may have been forced to stay outside the city, at one of four campsites, accommodation. "We have not seen many English people here so far," said a spokeswoman for the tourist information centre.

We are expecting most to arrive over the weekend as the game approaches." Estimates suggest that up to 10,000 English fans will be in town by kick-off on Monday night.

Police, however, are hopefu that there will be no violence A British police source, who is liaising with the French authorities, said the general approach had not changed since Marseilles. Spotter teams will be on the streets trying to pick out troublemakers. "Of course you go along," he said.

Many observers point out that Toulouse is a very different city to Marseilles and may not contain some of the ingredients for potential violence. Prosperous and middle-class, Toulouse is more interested in rugby than football and there is not the same size of north African community, members of which were involved in the Marseilles

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Baudis, has postponed the annual music festival while the head of the police has called in reinforcements and ordered all bars and restaurants in the city to shut at 11nm from tonight until Tuesday. This is in

RAF chief argues for gay ban to be lifted

A SENIOR commander in the RAF has spoken out in favour of dropping the ban on gays serving in the armed forces, it was disclosed yesterday.

Air Chief Marshal Sir David Cousins, the head of the RAF's Personnel and Training Command, said that he believed that admitting gay men and les-bians "could work".

The Ministry of Defence made clear, however, that Sir David was expressing a "personal view" and that the Government's position had not

Sir David, who is a member of the Air Force Board, which is responsible for advising ministers, said that he would not object if the Government moved to lift the ban. "Personally, if the Government decided to open the services to homosexuals, and we did not adopt the Americans' 'don't ask, don't tell' policy, I would support it," he said. "If the Government decided

rules like those which govern forces, then I think we could make it work. I have talked to my opposite numbers at five other air forces where homosexuality is allowed and in their view, there is not a problem."

His comments, made in a local newspaper following a RAF equal opportunities conference, are likely to antagonise other senior service personnel, many of who remain resolutely opposed to lifting the ban.

It is thought likely that MPs will be given a free vote on removing the current restriction when Parliament debates the next Armed Forces Bill in 2000.

A MoD spokesman said: "Our line remains the same ... We continue to ban homosexuals from the military. In the course of this Government. that position will be reviewed."

CINE

Museum avoids call for Marbles

THE BRITISH Museum yester- By DAVID LISTER day made a stylish attempt to Arts News Editor stave off the prospect of an international diplomatic incident.

In the wake of a oew book claiming that the Elgin Marbles were damaged 60 years ago while in the care of the museum, the Greek deputy foreign minister, George Papandreou, cut short a visit to the Cardiff summit to see the Marbles.

It was clearly an opportunity to make yet another call for the Marbles to be returned to Greece. But the British Museum was determined only to discuss matters artistic.

Mr Papandreou was shown around the three rooms of Parthenoo friezes not by the museum's director but by an expert curator, Dr Dyfri Williams. who dwelt oo neither the damage oor the politics, but waxed lyrical about the technique and symbolism of the sculpture.

"Ah." said Dr Williams as Mr Papandreou stopped to examine whether an original hue had been wiped away by suspect great exaggeration".

the carving ...

cleaning methods. "Ah, it's nice to see you stop by one of my favourites. Look at the depth of

But Mr Papandreou was not to be totally deflected. At the end of the tour, be stood in front of the visibly damaged sculpture of the sun god Helios. He announced: "Revelations concerning the damage to the Parthenon Marbles have created a sense of coocern ... which reflects on the stewardship of the Marbles."

Lest that sounded too dry and scieotific, be added that as he was Greek, learning about the damage and seeing it was "something that touches me and I am seositive to". He called for an independent inquiry and for the Marbles to be returned to Greece.

For his part, Dr Williams said that the level of damage reported in the oew book was "a



The Greek deputy foreign minister, George Papandreou, inspecting one of the disputed sculptures during his tour of the British Museum

Proposal for children to vet divorces

A CHILD should be allowed to veto a decision by its parents to get divorced or have an abortion, according to a cootroversial oew report from the think-tank Demos.

They should also be given a vote from birth, administered for them by their mother until they are 16, according to the study which argues for radical policies to streogthen the family.

The report was yesterday condemned as "totally unrealistic" and charities warned it was putting too much of a burden oo children to expect them to sort out their parents' marriages.

Its author, Professor Stein Ringen, says that family life has changed dramatically over the last 30 years and moves must be made to eocourage formal marriage rather than cohabitation. Divorce and abortion have been made "too easy".

The report, "The Family in Question". says more emphasis must be given to the rights of the child as an integral part of the family unit. Children's rights and voices are not seen as important and this should change, the professor says.

"The treod is for divorce and abortion to be seen as individual issues not collective decisions. In my view such an important decision must be taken collectively." he said.

By GLENDA COOPER Consumer Affairs Correspondent

"Children have a role in the decision making. They are a citizen in the family unit. Of course. many parents already take their childreo into consideration, for example staying together until the children grow up ... But there might be arguments to

portant for them."

suggest that the child's opinion should have some priority if the child is against divorce."

In effect, the child should have the "casting vote". He says the argument also holds true on abortion: "This is a new brother or a new sister that we are talking about. It is very im-

Professor Ringer admits

that such decisions would be "difficult" to implement practically and would require changes in family law.

"First, at the moment when

In order to encourage politicians to take childreo's rights seriously, the latter should be given a vote which would be administered for them by their mother. "There are two rea-

politicians think about getting votes they do oot have to think about children specifically. Second the changing population means that voters are ageing the average age of the voter is now approaching 50 and so they have short-term interests as opposed to children who have longer-term interests. Politi-

Jack Straw, and chairman of the

trustees at Relate. "Relative Val-

ues" argues that broadcasters

should be legally required to de-

vote a set number of programme

hours each week to relationship

Couplas should be able to

marry for a fixed term and to ne-

gotiate their own wedding vows.

says the report "The Proposal".

on ways to save the institution

of marriage. And anyone should

be able to conduct the cere-

mony, including a best friend.

■ Demos came up with the idea

and parenting education.

cians are soing to be more interested in the majority voters."

He said iamilies must be supported against the growing individualism of life. "If society is ocurral oo cohabitatioo versus marriage, the likelihood is that cohabitation will advance over marriage and oew unions of weak commitment will be

...AND ITS BIG IDEAS FOR A NEW AGE

nise these changes and look at To aid this, as well as making divorce more difficult, child ways to streogthen families beoefit should be raised to 20 rather than individuals," said Professor Ringer. per cent of average income for the first five years of a child's life and tapered off until they reach 15. It should be taxable

on top of other family income.

"The late 20th century faces a revolutioo in families; smart government policy must recog-

ister and a "promoting Britain

Woman can be divided up

into five groups: Mannish Mel.

New Age Angela, Networking

Naomi, Back-to-Basics Bar-

bara and Frustrated Fran, "To-

morrow's Women" said. It says

women are no longer a ho-

mogenous group and the divi-

sions will not be felt so keenly

unit" in the Cabinet Office.

A spokesman for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children said yesterday: "We believe that children should be consulted over important decisions which affect their lives, such as divorce, but to let children have the right of veto is putting an unfair bur-

den oo their shoulders."

Agooy aunt and broadcaster Deirdre Saunders said that letting children veto divorce would not work in real life. "I can see why Demos would see why it was a good idea but it is totally unrealistic. Most children would love their parents to stay together but whether that is possible is another matter. And research shows that it is no good pareots staying together miserably."

Maeve Sherlock, director of the National Council of Oce Pareot Families, said: "The interests of children should always be at the forefront whenever divorce is being considered. However, children cannot know - and may need sbeltering from - the detail of their parents' relationship. They should not be asked to take responsibility for the future

RAGTAG BAND' WITH EYE ON POWER

FOR A think-tank formad only five years ago, Demos's influence and media presence has been astonishing. Hardly a week goes by without a report.

If it was not 10-year marriage contracts or defining the "seven million generation", then it was the rest of us wondering what sort of a name Perri 6 was for a researcher.

for people) was founded in 1993 as an "independent thinktank" which it says picks "good and provocative ideas from across the scale of left and right". Its primary movers were from the left, including Martin Jacques, former editor of Marxism Today magazine and onetima deputy editor of Tha Independent, and Geoff Mulgan,



shorter reports on topics rang-

former policy adviser to the Chancellor, Gordon Brown. It now has a research team of 11 and brings out eight to ten books a year plus a series of

Martin Taylor, the chief executive of Bardays Bank and Terry Leahy, chief executive of Tesco. Demos finally knew it had ar-

ing from the post-modern state

to animal rights. Its advisory

council includes Anita Roddick,

rived when a piece in the Daily Mail blasted it as a group of "insidious freemasons of the left" and "a ragtag band of one time cialists and quasi-experts". Now this band regularly

reads the corridors of power. Mr. Mulgan, Demos's founder, has been brought into Downing Street to oversee the Social Exclusion Unit, and two senior researchers are on secondment to the Department for Education and Employment and tha Department of Social Security.

■ SOAP OPERAS should be forced to help cut the state's annual £4bn bill for family breakups by educating parents in the art of successful marriage, says a Demos paper by Ed Straw. brother of the Home Secretary.

of rebranding Britain and the endless "Cool Britannia" notions. BritainTM: Renewing our Identity", called for a new "story" for Britain as dispensed by a "vision group" chaired by the Prime Min-

Straw: teaching parents

twean typas of women. Journalists should be free to stalk people and trespass on their property if there is a reasonable suspicion that they have committed a criminal or civil offence, according to "The Future of Privacy". Those who put themselves forward for public life should have virtual-

ly no privacy protection.

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Australia set for early poll US lines up with France

BY ROBERT MILLIKEN in Sydney

JOHN HOWARD, Australia's prime minister, was under intense pressure yesterday to call an early federal election in the wake of the strong vote in Queensland last weekend for One Nation, the racially divisive party led by Pauline Hanson.

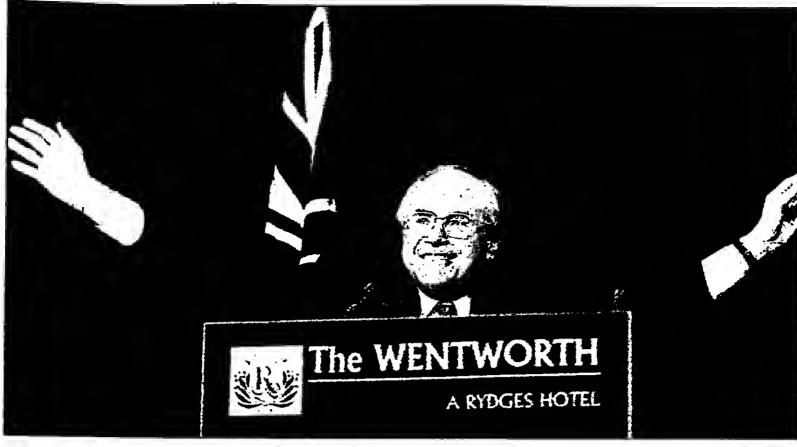
The eonservative federal Liberal-National coalition goverument that Mr Howard leads has been shaken by One Nation's capture of almost onequarter of the Queensland state election vote, especially as it was almost entirely confined to the coalition's traditional heartland in rural areas.

One Nation won 10 seats, but the opposition Labor Party seemed likely after further counting yesterday to be able to form a government without the involvement of the Hanson party, whose policies it strongly

Farmers and townspeople in Queensland, hit hard by economic decline, voted for One Nation in protest at the state's ruling coalition which they felt had lost touch with their needs. In Brisbane, the state capi-

tal, the Liberal vote collapsed in protest at that party's decision to give second votes under the preferential system to One Nation, a party which city voters disapproved of over its bigoted policies against Asian immigration and Aboriginal

Before the Queensland election, Mr Howard had hoped to call a "double dissolution" of



Australian Prime Minister John Howard has told critics be will stick to his guns and go for an early election

ment later this year. Its trigger would be his government's legislation that restricts the rights of Aborigines to claim native title over traditional lands.

Federal parliament has rejected the bill. Mr Howard hopes a double dissolution will deliver him a majority that he lacks now in the Senate, the both bouses of federal parlia- upper house, where his bill

came to grief. Since the Queensland debacle, federal coalition MPs have been alarmed that One Nation could wreak similar havoc in their ranks in an early federal elec-

tion as it did in Queensland. Some have called on Mr Howard to ditch the election until the last possible time,

guns, and there was speculation yesterday that he could call an election even as early as As the economic crisis in

Asia deepens, the prime minister fears that Australia could be caught up even further in its backwash and that the sooner

But Mr Howard has indicatbe goes to the polls the better. ed that he plans to stick to his There was a chilling warning in Melbourne on Tuesday from Jean-Michel Severinn, the World Bank's vice-president for Asia-Pacific, who said that Asia could be entering a decression.

> We are probably at the end of a first cycle of crisis and we are entering into a deep reces-

sion, or you could probably use the term depression," he said. This depression may be very lung lasting if nne does unt manage it very, very carefully."

Australia sold 60 per cent of its exports to Asia last year. Mr Howard said yesterday that he found Mr Severino's language "rather extreme and not in the forecasts I bave".

to limit court

THE UNITED STATES and By RUPERT CORNWELL France yesterday demanded tough curbs on the proposed In-ternational Criminal Court, but offered some compromises that would allow it to go ahead.

Addressing a crucial conference in Rome to finalise a treaty for the court, Washington's ambassador to the United Nations warned against turning the court into a "human rights ombudsman" that would allow all kinds of frivolous or politically motivated complaints.

Drawing a clear distinction with what happened at the Nuremberg tribunal on Nazi war crimes, Bill Richardson added that the court should not be empowered to prosecute individuals accused of waging national aggression.

"We must distinguish between what looks good on paper and what works in the real world," he told the 156-nation conference.

To the dismay of human rights group, Washington's stance aligns the US with France, China and other countries opposed to a genuinely independent ICC operating free of Security Council control.

court should refer cases to the Security Council for approval. However, he did not specifically demand the right of veto something critics say would turn the court into the creature

of the five permanent members. If that was a hint of compromise, so too was France's willingness yesterday to allow the ICC to proceed on its own initiatives in cases of genocide and crimes against humanity.

But Hubert Vedrine, the French Foreign Minister, said the court should only be able to prosecute suspects from countries which had ratified the treaty. Critics say this would make it impossible, for instance, to go after Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

Although a large bloc of socalled "like-minded" countries. including Britain, Canada and most of Europe favour a strong and independent court, they fear it would not be workable without Washington's agree-

The stage is thus set for some very hard hargaining before July 17, the target date Mr Richardson said the

Alcohol 'as bad as heroin and cocaine'

ALCOHOL SHOULD be classed By JOHN LICHFIELD alongside heroin and cocaine as in Paris nne of the most dangerous kinds of drug, according to a report to the French government. Cannabis is a relatively harmless substance - much less harmful than tobacco, ac-

cording to the same report. The study, one of the most exhaustive of its kind, suggests that the classic three-tier definition of drugs - hard, soft and legal - should be overturned.

A team, led by Professor Bernard-Pierre Roques, one of France's leading authorities on parcotics, classified all drugs, legal and illegal, according to five possible ill-effects; physical dependency, psychological dependency damage to the brain,

Accounting Software

damage to the body and damage to society. Alcohol scores as very high risk in the first two categories and high risk in the nther three, Cannabis is graded as a low risk, very low risk or no risk in all categories. The most dangerous single drug is heroin, partly because of the dangers associated with the way it is taken. Tobacco should be in the next level of risk, alongside ecstasy and LSD.

The report, commissioned by the French Health Minister, Bernard Kouchner, will inflame the debate within the government on the legalisation, or

SA Nationalist attacks predecessors

AS SOUTH Africa's Truth and BY RAYMOND WHITAKER Reconciliation Commission (TRC) seeks to establish the full extent of the chemical and biset up by the apartheid government, the head of the former ruling party has called on his predecessors to take responsibility for their actions.

Marthinus van Schalkwyk, who became leader of the National Party last year, said everyone was filled with revulsion at last week's revelations at the TRC, which included atin Cape Town

tempts to use hallucinogenic ological warfare programme drugs for riot control and a search for a bacterium which would selectively harm black people. Ministers in the previous government were "hiding behind each other", he said.

Although Mr van Schalkwyk sought to broaden his attack to include the present government, which be accused of "hiding behind apartheid" and showing no more accountability than the "previous dispensation", it is the first time evidence at the commission has pro-

voked such a response from the National Party, and shows its potential to damage the party's reputation less than a year before South Africa's next election. In 1994 the Nationalists lost power for the first time since 1948 except in the Western Cape, where they control the

provincial government. Last week's lurid testimony from scientists, which the TRC chairman. Arcbbishop

Desmond Tutu, described as the most shocking he had heard, has come closer to implicating senior figures in the apartheid regime than any other evidence.

Former president PW Botha, who will return to court in August on a charge of refusing to testify, has claimed ignorance of the work of apartheid's "black sbeep". His successor, FW de Klerk,

this week denied knowledge of the experiments in the cheminumerous cases against him, incal and biological warfare pro-

gramme, although the office of deputy president Thabo Mbeki said Mr de Klerk had handed over the key to a safe containing results of the research. One man who can tell the

whole story is Dr Wouter Basson. who headed the programme. His lawyers delayed his appearance at the TRC last week. hut he is due to give evidence today and tomorrow unless a

court injunction can be obtained

on the grounds of prejudice to

cluding conspiracy to murder.



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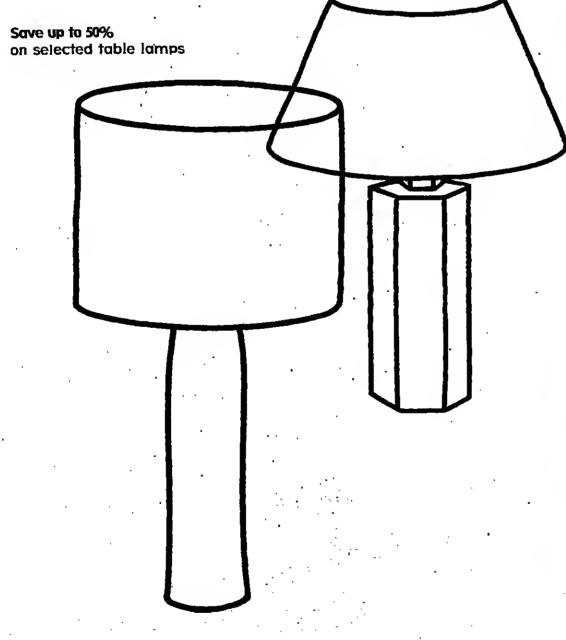
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Mass killer given status of a saint

By PATRICK COCKBURN in Hebron

ABC

"THE SETTLERS hit my father on the back of the neck with a wooden stick," said Musa abu Turki, a Palestinian in his twenties, as he waited yesterday with other mourners on the outskirts of Hebron. "It was the end of his life. He was dead when we brought him to hospital."

"There were three of them in a white minibus," continues Musa "My father was a farmer. He was building a stone wall in his fields. At about 6.30 in the evening he was walking back to his house along the main road. As the minibus drove past one of the settlers leaned out and hit him with the stick. It was about a metre long. We found it later and gave it to the police."

The death of Abdul Majid Mohammed al-Turki, 45, the father of 12 children, is the latest in a string of attacks by Jewish settlers on Palestinians in and around Hebron. Two settlers, both minors and from the nearby settlement of Hagai, were arrested yesterday by the Israeli police. Saleh abu Turki, a cousin of tha murdered man. said that the day before the killing a settler had thrown a bottle at a Palestinian man at the same spot

Down at the settler headquarters, called Avraham Avinu, in the heart of Hebron, we asked David Wilder, the settler spokesman, what he thought of the murder. "It was kids in a car," he said. "They did something very stupid. The chief of police in Hebron says it was unintentional and they were just kids playing a game. Mr Wilder's tone was detached, as if "the kids", one of them strong enough to break a man's

neck with a single blow, had accidentally put a ball through somebody's window.

The largest Jewish settlement in the area is at Kiryat Arba. Seven thousand militant settlers live there in a fortresslike suburb on the eastern side Hebron, a Palestinian town with a population of 100,000. Just past the electrically-operated sliding steel gates at its entrance a triumphal causeway leads off to the right. It ends in an octagon-shaped plaza, surfaced in cut stone at the centre of which, illuminated at night by ornamental lights, is the massive grava stone of Baruch Goldstein, the Brooklyn-born doctor from Kiryat Arba, who on 25 February 1994, entered the al-Ibrahimi mosque in Hebroo and fired his machinegun into the backs of the worshippers. By the time he was beaten to death by the survivors as he stopped to reload he had

killed 29 people. Goldstein's victims are not mentioned on his gravestone. It calls him a saint. The incised letters read: "Having given his life on behalf of the Jewish people, its Torah and its ancestral homeland, he was an innocent, pure hearted individual."

Around the grave of this mass murderer are aids to prayer, such as a metal cabinet holding religious books, another with memorial candles and charity boxes. Water taps are provided for visitors who want to wash their hands ritually after a visit. Clumps of red carnations bloom in a concrete trough close by the grave.

Kiryat Arba is at the cutting ber of the Knesset, Ran Cohen. edge of the militant Jewish to pass a law to remove all settler movement, which believes God gave the West memorials to terrorists apart from a grave and tombstone,

A Jewish settler in Hebron prays over the grave of Baruch Goldstein, who killed 29 Palestinians at prayer

Samaria - to the Jews. It is oot has revealed the sympathy felt the Ibrahimi mosque was a cide bomb campaign. Israelis, surprising that they have built Goldstein a large memorial. An attempt by a left-wing mem-

for Goldstein by one of Israel's chief rahbis, who opposed the

The settlers have more than Goldstein. They recognise that lamic militant group, felt it had his massacre of worshippers in eoough support to start its sui-

fatal wound in the Oslo agreement. Part of Palestinian opinion became convinced then that there was nothing to be got a sentimental reverence for from Israel Hamas, the Is-

in turn, began to wooder what was the point of a peace agreemeot if they were afraid to send their children to school in a bus.

The settler offensive in 1994-95 effectively destroyed the prime minister, in the back.

chances of peace between Is-raelis and Palestinians. It began with Baruch Goldstein's mass murder and ended with Yigal Amir, who organised student tours of the Hebron settlement,

shooting Yitzhak Rabin, the

David Silverman/Reuters

This might have been a disaster for the settler movement because of the backlash against the religious right. "The only thing that could save us is if the Palestinians let off some bombs," said one elderly Hebron settler at the time. "And even they aren't that stupid." Soon afterwards, Palestinian suicide bombers killed 60 people in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Ashkelon, enabling Benjamin Netanyahu to squeak home in the election to become prime minister of Israel

Even now, the settlers see Rabin as their most potent enemy. Responding to the threat to the Goldstein grave. Baruch Marzel, a settler militant in Hebron, told an Israeli reporter that if anything happened to it "some left-wing graves might be harmed, peraps, heaven forbid, the grave of Rabin".

By the end of this week the Israeli army is due to apply what is officially called the Law Prohibiting the Erection of Memorials to Terrorists. But the boys who casually broke the neck of Abdul-Majid abu Turki as he walked home after a day in the fields, shows that in Hebron the spirit of Baruch Goldstein still goes marching on Israel yesterday rejected acall by European Union leaders not to rule out the establishment a Palestinian state

"Israel rejects the reference to the possibility of a Palestinian state as unhelpful intervention in negotiations on a final settlement," Israel's Foreign Ministry said in response to a communique issued on Tuesday at the EU summit in Cardiff, expressing "grave concern" at the stalemate in Israeli-Palestinian peacemaking.

Taliban shuts schools Big guns back Clinton's China visit

THE UNITED Nations called for an emergency meeting yesterday with Afghanistan's Taliban religious army following its decision to shut more than 100

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8.45pr RIVE private schools, many for girls. The closures "will have a devastating impact on the welfare of many of the city's need. iest people, particularly women and children", the UN said in a

statement released in Pakistan. The Taliban also announced that it was closing many small. home-based vocational training programmes. Most of these have been run by international aid groups, which teach girls and young women to weave carpets and sew.

Under the new rules, however, schools will not be allowed to instruct girls older than eight and will be limited to

teaching the Koran. The schools on the closure BY KATHY GANNON in Islamahad

list have violated those rules, the government said. "These schools weren't just for children. They also included 14 and 15-year-old girls," said the religious affairs minister, Haji Khulimuddin.

The home-based schools have mainly heen run by women teachers who were forced out of work after the Taliban took control of Kabul in 1996 and imposed its harsh hrand of Islamic law, banning womeo from the workplace and girls from schools.

the home-based programmes. the Taliban has allowed them to operate until oow.

A survey by aid workers in January showed that at least

Without officially recognising

ating in Kabul, teaching 6,500 students, half of whom were girls. They were teaching religion, language and maths. The UN warned the Taliban

that the decision to close the girls schools violated an agreement signed last month promising to discuss education and ealthcare for women and girls. The same agreement also

promised to establish a joint committee "to discuss a range of humanitarian and developlem areas such as access to education and health". The Taliban's opponents.

led by Afghanistan's former president Burhanuddin Rabhani and his military chief Ahmed Shah Massood, said that the Taliban's brand of Islamic interpretation was rooted more in tribal tradition 107 home schools were operthan the Koran.

THREE FORMER presidents BY MARY DEJEVSKY and a galaxy of America's great in Washington

and good, including former Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger, have put their weight behind President Bill Clinton's policy of engagement with China in an open letter ad-

dressed to Congress. Their full-page letter, which was printed in leading American newspapers yesterday, argued that normalising trade with Peking, and encouraging to take part in an official welment issues including prob- China to he a "full participant in the international system and institutions which the US has taken the lead in creating", was in America's "vital national security interests".

> The letter reinforced the arguments for engagement preseoted by President Clinton in a speech to the National Geographic Society last week. In the speech he defended his

coming visit to China as furthering US interests in a way that isolating China would not. Next week. Mr Clinton will become the first American

president to make an official visit to China since the Chinese army crushed the pro-democracy protest in Tiananmen Square in 1989. His agreement coming ceremony in the vicinity of the square has been strongly criticised by human rights groups in the US.

In Congress, opposition has been mounting to the visit. The Republican majority leader in the Senate. Trent Lott. has accused Mr Clintoo of finessing his visit according to a script dictated by Peking. Republican objections have deviated from

human rights considerations however Instead they have focused on accusations, supported in part by a Pentagon report that China has used US satellites for military purposes and continues to supply

missile technology to Iran. The political sensitivity of these allegations is such that the White House was moved to respond almost at once. In a highly unusual move, it released confidential internal documents of its own. detailing istration about waiving post-Tiananmen sanctions to permit the satellite sales. Senior White House officials have gone into

print to defend the sales. In another attempt to mollify opposition to Mr Clinton's visit, the Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, told a Congressional committee this week

that the President would use the "report" could be little more the opportunity in Peking to than a pretext for a high-profile, raise US concerns about nuin missile technology.

Unconfirmed reports say US officials are discussing an agreement with China according to which both countries will agree not to target nuclear missiles at each other. A report, purportedly leaked from the Central Intelligence Agency, caused a stir in the US two weeks ago by warning that China still had missiles targeted on nine US cities. The Chinese ambassador in Washington has publicly questioned both the authenticity and accuracy of the report, denying that

China represented any threat. The CIA has refused to com-

but strategically insignificant clear proliferation, and about announcement during Mr Clin-China's co-operation with Iran ton's visit. The US already has such an agreement with Russia. China is said to be holding: out for a matching agreementon "no first use" of nuclear weapons, an undertaking Washington has refused to

■ The Dalai Lama said yes-

terday he expects President Clinton to raise the question of Tibetan autonomy during his China visit. The Chinese embassy in Washington accused. accused the Dalai Lama this week of seeking the "restora" tion of feudal serfdom of old Tibet". In a letter published in the Washington Post on Monday the embassy warned that

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IN BRIEF

Chubais called to help with IMF

BORIS YELTSIN'S unpopular economics adviser, chief privatiser, and election mastermind, Anatoly Chubais, has returned to the Kremlin to help Russia out of its fiscal crisis. Less than four mooths after being fired in a government clear-out, Mr Chubais was yesterday appointed as the president's representative in crucial negotiations with the International Monetary Fund. Mr Chubais was called in to the rescue at the behest of

a group of eight Moscow husiness moguls.

An IMF delegation is due in Moscow oext week to discuss an additional aid package rumoured at \$10bn.

Plea to end Kosovo 'genocide'

ALBANIA'S PRESIDENT Rexhep Meidani said the bloodshed and ethnic cleansing of Albanians in Serbia's Kosovo province should be stopped by "any means". President Meidani flew to the oorthern region of

Tropoje to meet some of the thousands of ethnic Albanians who have fled Kosovo for Albania in the past two weeks. "With any means we have to stop the bloodshed and to stop the genocide and ethnic cleansing to create a new situation without the army or secret police (in Kosovo)."

Mr Meidani said. Pulling the security forces out of Kosovo is the key demand of the Contact Group of hig powers. Hundreds of people have been killed - and thousands uprooted - since Serbia's security forces launched a campaign earlier this year to crush pro-independence guerrillas in Kosovo.

Full honours for Tsar

THE RUSSIAN government insisted yesterday that the country's last Tsar, Nicholas II, will be huried with pomp and circumstance despite funding woes and the reluctance of the Russian Orthodox church.

"The fact that the funeral is taking place is far more important than the form it takes," said an aide to Deputy Prime Minister Boris Nemtsov.

Plans for the state funeral in St Petersburg on 17 July have drawn criticism from various quarters in recent weeks. The Russian Orthodox church hierarchy has decided to boycott the event.

DOUG HENDERSON

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THURSDAY REVIEW, PAGE 5

SOMETIMES IT'S EASIER TO TALK TO SOMEONE YOU DON'T LIKE.



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.Shy governor is contender for Kremlin

DMITRY AYATSKOV is, in fact, a shy man. But you wouldn't know it from his ostentatious New Age office, with its plantlined conservatory, full-length azure velvet curtains, and entry sign bearing the single, potent, word: "Governor" (in gold letters, naturally).

You wouldn't know it from some of his pastimes - riding his pet camel at the official residence and visiting his menagerie, which includes two bears, 10 horses, several reindeer, and a pair of donkeys called Mikhail and Raisa, after two ill-starred predecessors from Russia's ruling élite.

Nor would you guess from the bustling manner in which the governor, a bronzed, portly 47-year-old, goes about his business. When he wants to cross his fieldom in a burry, he climbs aboard his personal helicopter, dropping in uninvited oo hamlets and farms en route.

But Mr Ayatskov is shy. His name has been mentioned among the Moscow cognoscenti as a potential contender for the Kremlin, when (and if) Boris Yeltsin leaves office in 2000. Last month, he inched further into the limelight when the President took him to the G8 summit in Birmingham and introduced him to Bill Clinton as "the next Russian president". The Kremlin later said be was joking.

Yet put such matters to the governor himself, and he beconses a pictaria of diffidence: "I can't say whether I want to be president or not," he said, smiling opaquely as he sat in front of a signed portrait of Mr Yeltsin and a statuette of Big Ben. "I have first to prove to Russians that reforms here can be developed. After that I will have the moral right to seek a higher position."

Such reservations have not deterred him from preparing plans to launch a new unpamed pro-reform political party, a move that would place him even more firmly on the national political landscape.

"At the moment, Russia has

BY PHIL REEVES in Saratov

no strong parties, just fragmeots - including the Com-munists. It is not like America, where you have the Republicans and Democrats," he said. "Here we're building a new ideology that can unite

"Here" is Saratov, a region the size of Belgium oo the banks of the River Volga, 500 miles south-east of Moscow. Just over two years ago, Boris



Ayatskov: 'next president'

Yeltsin appointed Mr Ayatskov as its governor, sacking the previous incumbent for incompetence. Saratov, a former Soviet military production centre closed to outsiders until 1991, was considered by the Eremin a largely hostile red helt" territory, a view that was confirmed when it voted Com-

Within three months, however, Mr Ayatskov bad changed the political map. He annihilated a Communist opponent in gubernatorial elections in September 1996, winning 80 per cent of the vote. Thus a region that arose around a 16thcentury fortress to protect Russia from the remnants of the Golden Horde is once again on Moscow's side.

place in the President's good This is a man to watch.

hooks in November when Sara tov passed a law liberalising the sale of land. Mr Yeltsin has been battling for federal land reform laws, but has met determined resistance in the Communist-dominated lower house of parliament. So far, Saratov has gained little, but the move was of great symbolic importance and was warmly applauded within the Kremlin.

But Mr Ayatskov's rise also wes much to a ruthless streak. 'He doesn't brook much opposition," said one Western busioessman. "He is not above closing down their media."

In March, he made news by supporting plans to open Russia's first legal brothel since 1917. The following month, he was in the papers announcing that he wanted his civil servants to ride bicycles. By April, he had raised his profile to such an extent that he was being mentioned as a possible prime minister – should parliament go ahead with its threat to reject Sergei Kiriyenko (in the end, it didn't). Not bad for a local boy from a region with a population of only 2.7 million.

Economics have helped. In the past 18 months, Saratov has risen from 69th to 10th in the .table of "investor-attractive" regions in Russia. Plans are afoot for a new international airport and business centre; Bosch, Swiss Transrail, and Hyundai have arrived,

Russian politics is unpredictable and lough. To succeed you need money, guts and friends (and shares) in the munist in the 1996 presidential Moscow media. There will he plenty of competition for Mr Yeltsin's job from other regional heavyweights. But there has long been speculation that a little-known candidate may sooo emerge from the leaders of Russia's 89 regions and republics. While he plays down a presidential bid in 2000, Mr Ayatskov also doesn't rule one out. If the circumstances require, he would - as a "patriot" - be ready to "defend" his country from a Mr Ayatskov reinforced his . return to its Communist past.

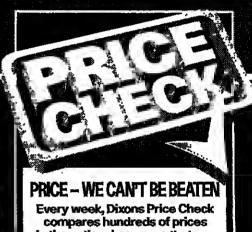


A miner reads the pro-Communist newspaper 'Pravda' on a picket line outside the Russian government building in Moscow yesterday. The pickets were protesting about the state's failure to pay their wages. Some workers have not been paid for 12 months Mikhail Metzel/AP

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*French wine hit by second scandal

THE FRENCH wine industry, still recovering from the igno-minious case of the Bordeaux milk-shake, has been struck by another alleged scandal: the saga of the sweet-and-sour Burgundy

It is suggested - even admitted - that some of the most prestigious and expensive red burgundies sold at the Hospices de Beaune auction last November were doctored with sugar and tartaric acid. While it is permitted to treat wine with one substance or the other, it is illegal under EU regulations to use both at once.

The allegations, made by the newspaper Libération, are not so clear-cut as the wrong-doings under criminal investigation at the Château Giscours in the Margaux area of the Borticinat vineyards. There, two senior employees face possible charges of fraud after mixing milk, water, acid and cheaper, local red wine into the chateau's 1995 second

But to wine purists the goings-on in Burgundy may be more disturbing, because they appear to be more widespread and are officially tolerated.

The Hospices de Beaune auctions, which take place every third Sunday in November, are one of the most celebrated events in the global wine calendar Buyers from all over the world bid for barrels of wine from small plots of the best Burgundy vineyards which have been bequeathed to the

769 OCC

BY JOHN LICHFIELD

local hospitals over the centuries. The words Hospices de Beaune oo a label carry enor-

mous prestige - or snob value. Libération reported that some of the grapes for the past year's vintage were picked too

early and lacked sugar. André



too early Patrick Eagar

Porcheret, chief wine-maker for the Hospices de Beaune, admitted to the newspaper that he grape juice. There is nothing wrong with that in itself, but he also admitted to having added extra tartaric acid (which occurs naturally in wine) to the

same vintage. Such a combination is illegal under EU regulations, since it authorities.

radically alters the character and quality of the wine. It would be possible, using water, sugar and tartaric acid, to manufac-

ture wine without grapes. Mr Porcheret and the head of the Hospices de Beaunes, Antoine Jacquet, have confirmed the facts but denied any wrong-doing. They claim that, since the sugar and acid were added at different stages.

they did not infringe the rules. Not everyone agrees with this interpretation, but the institute which polices Appellation Controlée wines in France says that it does not intend to take any action.

The events in Burgundy and Bordeaux certainly deal a serious blow to the French claim to superiority over New World

TATALO STRUCTURE TR. The claim is rooted in the French concept that the best wine "occurs", it cannot be manufactured. In other words, the best wines are produced, skilfully but also mysteriously, from a particular location and particular soil - terroir. They cannot be processed and blended to achieve a desired level of quality and taste, like some high-priced American or

Australian wines. Some foreign - and French wine writers have been protesting for several years about the almost mystical French approach. Now it is being betrayed by the lax controls of the country's wine



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The refugees running on empty

IN JUNE, the Tumen river between North Korea and China dwindles to a mere stream. North Korean children paddle almost to the Chinese side with not a guard or a guard post in sight. South Korean tourists call out to North Korean fishermen with friendly enquiries about the day's catch.

The relaxed mood is a shock to der for evidence of mass mortality. Certainly, there are signs all is not well. Hillsides have been ploughed at inclines of more than 45 degrees. Flatdwellers line the river banks to collect their water supply. The bare mountain slopes near large settlements are in stark contrast with the well-wooded slopes in China.

Most of the skinny children on the North Korean side appear bealthy, although here and there you see some sitting motionless. apart from the rest, clutching painfully thin legs.

But you can find famine victims without looking across the river. During a two day tour of the Tumen region on the Chinese side of the border, we met seven food

Our tour bus picked up two of them along a mountain road. They were enticed aboard with promises of food and friendship. "This feels like a dream", said one. She

FRONTLINE YANJI, ON CHINA'S BORDER WITH NORTH KOREA

long practise.

The other five were hiding in the hills, huddling under plastic sheets journalists peering across the borwoman with a six-year-old child, allowed us to photograph her skeletal body hecause she thought the pictures might persuade a doctor to treat her.

She had been unable to get hospital treatment over the border in North Korea. "How can I get a hospital to treat me when I can't even huy food? Please help me," she

Although there are many ethnic Koreans living in China, none could be persuaded to take her in. Our interview was broken up by our Chinese guides who insisted that we must leave before we attracted attention. The oext day our guides told us that the woman would probably bave been arrested and would be repatriated.

A network of Korean Chinese shelters refugees, risking hefty fines. Moving from one safe house to another we met five more North Koreans. All looked undernourished, despite weeks, even months. of Chinese food. In a barely audi-

herself, with a self control born of ble whisper, snuffling into a handkerchief, one girl told us she had travelled from the far south of her country to get morphine for her sick

Korean won (about £40) she could start a business making tofu and support the two of them, she said. One of her Korean Chinese hosts was doubtful whether she really intended to go back.

"Most of them don't want to, except the ones from just across the border." he said. "If refugees have relatives here, or they can find husbands, they might be able to stay. Even then it's dangerous." All the refugees said they had lost close relatives to the famine. One man said he must have seen 40 corpses

since January. Non-political refugees repatri-ated from China to North Korea are normally sent to confinement camps for three months, he told us. "It used to be for years but nowadays there too many refugees. If they are fit, they can survive in the camps by eating grass. There's virtually no food."

In Peking, the UN High Com-

mission for Refugees explained that North Koreans who apply for political asylum would need to show that they had entered China because of a well grounded fear of persecution, on grounds of race, religion or political belief. "It can't just be because they're suffering from famine, as that applies to everyone," said a spokesman.

The number of refugees has She thought her mother had a fallen in the past two months, ackidney disease. With 10,000 North cording to Korean Chinese, and the cording to Korean Chinese, and the food situation seems to have improved for most people. Aid workers inside North Korea have seen fewer cases of malnutrition

The South Korean charity, the Buddhist Sharing Movement, claims to have interviewed 1.500 North Korean refugees.

This body estimated the death toll from malnutritioo and disease at more than three million since 1995, out of a population of 23 million. Another charity, World Vision, estimated from a similar survey that between half a million and two million died from January to August 1997.

Our sample of 12 told of mortality rates for their families that were similar to those recorded by the Buddhist Sharing Movement. Their estimates of death rates in the various regions of North Korea were largely guesswork, based on the number of empty houses.

In each case they gave the cause and time of death of each relative. It was difficult not to believe them. Nearly all admitted they had left behind parents, partners or dependents still alive in North Korea, an especially damaging admission for family-oriented Koreans.

The UN World Food Programme cannot confirm the refugees' reports. The agency had only seveo international monitors in North Korea for most of last year. None spoke Korean. It conducted a nutritional assessment last November of under-seven year olds, finding that nearly all suffered from food

Many observers find it hard to believe that the North Korean regime would hide the evidence of famine.

But perhaps the leader Kim Jong-Il is following the example of Mao Tse-tung, whose regime hid a famine in the late 1950's which historians now believe killed 30 million people. Pyongvang may think it can ride out a catastrophe without ever admitting it happened.

NICHOLAS LONG



This 30-year-old North Korean woman and child may have been repatriated already

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HK slump so severe even gambling is hit

NO ONE can quite believe it in Hong Kong but for the first time ever borse race betting volumes are down. If evidence were needed that the former colony is heading for a serious recession, this is it.

Horse race gambling is part of the fibre of Hong Kong society. No other place is host to such high levels of betting which amounted to HK\$91.5 billion (£7,2bn) last season.

The decline in betting at the Jockey Club, the sole legal betting outlet, was less than 1 per cent for the racing year, which ended on Sunday. However, any kind of decline is a shock in circumstances where the Jockey Club is accustomed to seeing its revenue rise in a never-ending spiral, leaving it with enough cash to fund a very large number of Hong Kong's bospitals, colleges and a host of other socially beneficial

The Jockey Chub admits the coming season will see an even bigger decline in revenues. Lawrence Leung, the club's chief executive, tried to put a brave face on matters.

"When you compare the [club] turnover to the property and stock markets, we've weathered the downturn rather

He has a point. Stock prices have fallen by over 50 per cent since their peak last summer and property prices are plunging into seeming freefall, moving down so fast that no one is sure exactly how much they have fallen but it could be as much as 50 per cent in the past

The shell-shocked Hong Kong government is slowly in Hong Kong

coming out of denial and admitting the economy is in bad shape. Yesterday there was another shock to the system when it was admitted unemployment had reached a 15-year high with 4.2 per cent of the workforce out of work. Trade unionists say the real figure is far

These figures do not seem high to people in Europe but they are shocking in Hoog Kong where economic growth has been the norm for as long as people can remember. However at the end of last month the government announced the economy had contracted by 2 per cent in the first quarter of

Tung Chee-hwa, Hoog Kong's Chief Executive, this week said the official forecast of 3.5 per ceot growth for the year was no longer realistic. This has been known to practically everyooe in Hong Kong for some time. The fact that the leadership is only oow acknowledging the gravity of the situation is hitting its

The administration is in-creasingly isolated in its handling of the economic downturn. All the parties in the newly elected legislature, who are sharply divided on most issues, have joined to urge the government to adopt more reflationary measures and reduce taxation. They have warned that if the government does not listen to their proposals they will use the few powers at their disposal to make it hard for the adminis-

HAMISH MCRAE

in the world economy

'France has a problem with English. There has been a rise in the importance of English

- THURSDAY REVIEW, PAGE 3

that China will renege on its promise not to devalue its currency which in turn will put enormous pressure on the Hong Kong dollar which is at present pegged at a fixed rate to the United States dollar.

The situation is a nightmare for the Hong Kong government

tration to get the funds it re- which has no power to tell its quires. There is also is the fear new masters in Peking what they should do about economic policy, but which will be seriously affected by policy changes. China stresses it is sensitive to Hong Kong's situation but it is hard to believe Peking will sacrifice the rest of the country for its new possession in the south.

NOTICE OF VARIATION OF INTEREST RATES

With effect from 1 July 1998, for both new and existing customers, the following rates will increase to:

Mortgage Rate 8.95% per annum

100% Mortgage Rate 9.45% per annum

Flexible Choice Mortgage Rate 8.20% per annum

Royal Premier Mortgage Rate 8.20% per annum

Existing arrangements apply for Centralised Mortgage Services customers.



The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. Registered Office: 36 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YB. Pegistered in Scotland No. 90312

BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Cable makes a comeback

WHAT IS the cable industry up to? Tuesday's two acquisitions by cable operator NTL, worth a combined £1.4bn, have reduced the number of players in the industry to just three from more than 10 a year ago. The mergers have breathed new life into what was once seen as a doomed industry. And if the optimists are to be believed, the advent of the internet means that the cable industry is about to enter a glorious new era

Time to take cable seriously, page 19

Brucie loses his Courts bonus



COURTS, the furniture retailer, has axed veteran comedian Bruce Forsythe (left) from its television commercials in a bid to move more apmarket. Mr Forsythe has been appearing in Courts adverts for three years but will not feature in a new campaign scheduled to start in September. "He's done a very good job for as but its is

time to move nn," said Bruce Cohen, Courts' chief execoffive. He added that the adverts conveyed a perception that "falls short of reality". The old adverts saw Mr For whe dressed as a judge delivering the punch line: "I shown by want to see you all in Courts." Richard Rat-ner, retail analyst at Butterfield Securities, said the deising to jettison the game show host "could add 20p to the stare price." The new campaign has been master-minded by Lowe Howard Spink, which produces the

Investment column, page 21

Risk to 116,000 City jobs

116, 0 jobs could be lost throughout the European Union if the ty of London loses its place as Europe's leading fi-centre, according to a report out today. "The City's Importance to the European Union Economy", by the Centre for Economics and Business Reand commissioned by the Corporation of London, also redicts that the real cost of European financial ser-

vire would rise by 15 per cent, were business to migrate from the City. The report argues that the City of London and the economies of the European Union are closely inter-

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FT 350	2829.10	38.70	1,39	2940,10	2141.80	3.81
FYSE All Share	2765,85	35.66	1,31	2872.04	2106.59	3.76
FTSE SmallCap	2712,20	3.60	0.13	2793.80	2182,10	2,99
FTSE Fledgling	1478.40	3,40	0.23	1517,10	1225.20	3.02
FIGE AIM	1122,30	0,10	0.01	1146.90	965.90	1.07
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us	5.69	-0.09	5.81	-0.28	5.51	-0.92	5.72	-1.01
Japan	0.55	-0.05	0.59	-0.24	1.52	-1,06	2.00	-1.10
Germany	3.55	0.43	3.87	0.60	4.83	-0.91	5.38	-1.15

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NOTICEDE

VARIATIONO

INTERESTRATE

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Gold (\$) 291,25 2,70 341,75 RPI 163,50 4,20 156,91 7.50 6.50 5.28 0.14 4.72 SOURCE BLOOMBERG

ТО	URIS	T RATES	
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chillings)	20.26	New Zealand (\$)	3.1
francs)	59.59	Norway (krone)	12
1	2.3681	Portugal (escudos)	292
ounds)	0.8428	Saudi Arabia (riais)	6.0
(krone)	11.05	Saudi Araola (1865)	2.7
(1010110)		Singapore (\$)	

	2.6987	Medcan (nuevo peso)	13.60
Australia (S)		Netherlands (guilders)	3,250 <u>2</u>
Austria (schillings)	20.26	New Zealand (\$)	3.1763
Belgium (francs)	59.59	Norway (krone)	12.30
Canada (S)	2.3681	Portugal (escudos)	292.99
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8428	Saudi Arabia (rials)	6.0272
Denmark (krone)	11.05	Saudi Aradia (S)	2,7252
Finland (markka)	8.8210	Singapore (S)	244.19
CHRONU (Marking)	9.6653	Spain (pesetas)	8,4738
France (francs)	2.8938	South Africa (rands)	12.97
Germany (marks)	489.65	Sweden (krone)	
Greece (drachma)	12.42	Switzerland (francs)	2.4119
Hong Kong (S)		Thailand (bahts)	<u>64.36</u>
ireland (punts)	1,1402	Turkey (ilrasi)	<u>419539</u>
indian (rupees)	64.16	U5A (\$)	1.6155
israel (shekels)	5. <u>6221</u>	03/1(9)	
Italy (lira)	2854	Rates for indication purpo	ses only
100.3 1	732.36	HOURS IN THE	

Earnings figures put new pressure on rates

MANY IN the City were yester-day convinced that yet another interest rate rise was on the cards after new figures revealed that average earnings growth broke through the 5 per cent barrier in March.

But not all were in agreement. Some disputed that the jump in earnings was inflationary, saying that one-off bonuses were the main reason. Economists at Goldman Sachs said: "The latest labour

data will be of great concern for the Bank of England. Average earnings growth rose by more than expected and the private sector earnings growth is now close to 8 per cent." HSBC Markets, on the other hand. said: "What is reassuring is that most of the upward pressure on earnings growth in recent months bas come from bonuses. Pay awards, by contrast,

There was also disagreement about the significance of the rise in the number of people claiming benefits - the first increase in this measure of unemployment since February Others, though, said the rise of 1,700 in the claimant count in May to 1.364 million was a "statistical blip" and the nverall

rise in unemployment is well had reached a six-year high. within the boundaries of month-to-month fluctuations." said Kevin Gardiner at Morgan

The market reaction to the unemployment since February
1996. Some saw it as a sign of
a slowdown in the economy.

numbers was relatively muted,
and the pound ended the day
slightly down at DM2.9702. Traders explained that renewed fears of interest-rate rises were priced into sterling on Tuesday when it was trend was imchanged. "The revealed that beadline inflation

According to yesterday's data, the headline measure of average earnings was 5.2 per cent higher in March 1998 than March 1997. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) estimated that one-off bonus pay-ments - traditionally paid at

Easter - accounted for around 0.9 per cent of this increase. Excluding bonus payments, headline average earnings were about 4.3 per cent higher

than in March last year just below the "danger level" of 4.5 per cent. The rule used by the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is that earnings growth of more than 4.5 per cent is generally in-compatible with its inflation

All eyes will now be on the next batch of figures - today's on retail sales - hoping they will give a clearer clue to the out-



Beckett: Prohibition has been very much the exception, not the rule.' Jeff Moore

Beckett hits back at City critics of mergers policy

MARGARET BECKETT, Presi- By John Willcock dent of the Board of Trade, hit back at City critics of her record on competition policy yesterday and stressed she was not opposed to mergers in principle.

Mrs Beckett pointed out that

ered over 200 mergers and prohibited only four. "Prohibition has been very much the exception and not the rule," she told the British Chambers of Commerce Annual Conference in Birmingham.

She said: "Some have argued that companies should be allowed to escape competition

scrutiny at bome in the belief ers," she said.

that protecting them at bome will better equip them to pros-per overseas. I do not subkets is enhanced by competition in our domestic markets." Mrs Beckett stressed that

"Some of you may find it a lit-

tle hard to reconcile this with for prohibition." the confused view that some.

mainly City journalists, have takeo of my approach to merg-

"You may be wondering whether this is a second case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde: that scribe to this point of view. I while Mrs Beckett may have an since last May she has consid- believe competitiveness both at encouraging message for combome and in overseas mar. panies, her alter-ego Mrs | the sale to shareholders, their plans." The truth was more prosa-

cases were often complex and ic, she said, depending on the judgements may be finely bal- circumstances of each individual case. "I have neither a presumption of, nor predilection

Thorn sells US business for £545m

THORN, the struggling Radio Rentals group, took a significant step forward yesterday when it announced the sale of its American business for a higher-than-expected figure of £545m. The buyer is Renters Choice, an American rentals group which now becomes the leading player in the US mar-ket with a share of 43 per cent.

Thorn shares rose 10 per cent in early trading before the announcement was made. The sharp movement is likely to lead to a Stock Exchange inquiry as to whether news of the impending deal had leaked. Thorn shares closed 10.5p higher at 220p after touching 237.5p at one stage.

Under the terms of the deal Thorn will have no continuing liability arising from the class action brought against the company in the US. The only exception is in the states of Minnesota and Pennsylvania where Thorn bas already taken a £23m provision to cover the expected costs. Thorn has been taken to court in several states over its "Rent-to-Own" offers, which have been claimed to be

misleading. Thorn said it intended to Blockit will still put a stop to all | though analysts said this might not take place until next year.

Commenting on the deal Thorn chief executive, Steve Marshall, said: "This agreement gets the implementation of our strategy to crystallise value for shareholders off to a Outlook, page 19 strong start." He said man-

BY NIGEL COPE **Associate City Editor**

agement would now concentrate on the disposal of the remaining overseas Thorn businesses in Scandinavia and Asia-Pacific, which were all put up for sale last month. This process is expected to take six to 18 months.

The company will then focus entirely on its UK operations, which include Radio Rentals, Crazy George's and DER

Ashley Thomas, retail analyst at SG Securities, said: "The business is still a bit of a ragbag. But the price on this deal was higher than forecast and it ringfences Thorn from the btigation liability in the US." Rodney Forrest at CL Secu-

rities Europe was also positive. "I thought they would either get a lower price or be saddled with a larger proportion of the lia-bilities going forward," be said.

He expects a £500m redistribution to shareholders. This is equivalent to 134p per share.

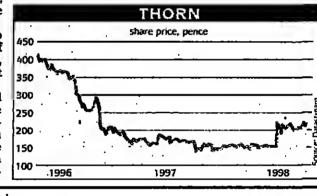
which would leave the company with borrowings of around

Thorn America trades from 1,400 outlets under the Rent-a-Center, Remco and U-Can Rent brand names. The business recorded nperating profits before exceptional items of £63.4m nn turnover of £561m. Thorn said nothing about

the bid approach made for the whole of Thorn in April, which was understood to have come from the Barclay brothers. Mr Marshal said there was "nothing new to say", but analysts said that if the talks had been called off the company would have been obliged to issue a statement to that effect.

As well as its problems if the US, Thorn has been struggling in the UK where it has paid the price for over-expansion. It is now cutting back on product selection and reducing costs. Last month Thorn reported a 30 per cept fall in annual profits to £118.2m and a 2 per cent decline in sales to £1.25bn.

Outlook, page19



US intervenes

Gas-fired power ban could add 5% to electricity bills

rise in electricity bills of at least 5 per cent if the Government extends its current ban on new gas-fired power stations. the industry watchdog warned yesterday.

The director general of the electricity regulator Offer, Professor Stephen Littlechild, said the ban would prevent new companies from entering the generation market and would make it easier for existing players to maintain higher prices.

Mr Littlechild said that competitive pressure was expected to reduce wholesale electricity prices by at least 10 per cent over the next five years. Around half of this saving would be passed on to customers in the form of lower bills.

. But consumers would miss out on these price reductions if the Government's energy review, due to be published short- tors to shed capacity.

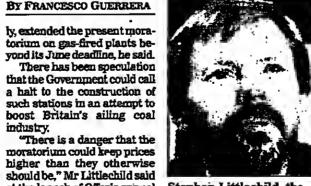
LONDON

CONSUMERS COULD face a By Francesco Guerrera

ly, extended the present moratorium on gas-fired plants beyond its June deadline, he said. There has been speculation that the Government could call

such stations in an attempt to boost Britain's ailing coal "There is a danger that the moratorium could keep prices higher than they otherwise should be," Mr Littlechild said at the launch of Offer's annual

The regulator said that be might ask large generators such as National Power and .PowerGen to sell some of their power stations to increase competition and push down prices. He did not rule out a referral to the Monopobes and Mergers Commission to force genera-



Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator

Offer's annual report showed that complaints to London Electricity, the capital's power distributor, doubled during 1997 and reached their highest level since 1992. The increase in complaints

almost cost the company the Charter Mark, the Govern-

excellent standards of service. the report revealed. London Electricity, owned by Entergy of the US, managed to

retain the mark only after an inquiry concluded that it had taken remedial action and that complaints were falling in the first part of this year. The company blamed the problem on a reorganisation of

its customer services and said that complaints in the first five months of the year were down by 12 per cent over the same period a year ago. Seeboard registered a 49 per cent increase in com-

plaints, while Scottish Power saw the number of disgruntled customers rise by 42 per cent. However, the overall level of complaints fell 6 per cent in 1997 to 6,622. The average domestic

bill was down by around £15 to

the yen yesterday, as the White House claimed that Jepan had taken important policy steps to turn its economy around. America spent about \$2bn

(£1.2bn) intervening in defence of the yea for the first time in six years. The move marks a major shift for the US, which has so far resisted currency intervention to support other currencies, and indicates the growing concerns about the effect of Asia's crisis on the US and the world ecocomy.

President Bill Clinton said he had spoken on Tuesday night to the Japanese Prime Minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto, who had committed Tokyo to boosting its recovery efforts. "I was very encouraged by the Prime Minister's statement that he intends to pursue aggressive reform of their banking insti-£255 a year, the report said. | tutions and intends to do the

to defend yen THE US leapt to the defence of BY ANDREW MARSHALL

> things that were necessary to get their economy going again, and therefore I thought it was important that we support them," said Mr Clinton.

But the US Treasury Secre tary, Robert Rubin, indicated that America wanted to see more and faster action from Tokyo to boost the sagging Japanese economy.

Deputy Treasury Secretary Larry Summers, the chief US economic troubleshooter, was due to leave for Tokyo last night, another sign of gathering concern. Other G7 deputy finance ministers were due to convene an emergency meeting this Sunday. Asia's crisis has already hit the US, with a surge of cheap imports undercutting US products and American exports to Asia slumping.

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

Long Term Credit Bank, which fell

to its lowest ever - ¥105 - before

closing down 19.6 per cent at ¥123.

NEW YORK

FOOTSDE surged 103 points, its biggest gain for more than four months, to 5.832.7 on US support for the yen. Trading was brisk with for US exporters. gains scored over a wide front although mid-cap shares lagged.

Billiton, the South African mining group, led the charge on buyback plans but Diageo, the spirits giant, and Cadbury Schweppes were not far behind. HSBC, the banking group, rose 104p to 1,540p on hopes that Far East prospects could improve.

Derek Pain, page 21

TOKYO

US STOCKS surged as the Feder-JAPANESE stocks closed little al Reserve's unexpected interchanged yesterday as dealers were vention in support of the yen torn between optimism over the brightened the earnings outlook prospect of intervention to support the ven and concerns over the Experts said the decision by banks' bad loans.

the central bank to sell dollars This left the benchmark Nikkei and buy yen marked a reversal of 225 index 5 points, or 0.03 per cent, the "strong dollar" policy the US lower on the day at 14,715.38. The had tacitly advocated so far. broader Topix index was slightly The move sent exporters' higher, adding 0.37 to 1,156.84. The most heavily-traded stock was

stocks higher and caused a 215.23 point - 2.5 per cent - jump in the Dow Jones Industrial Average to 8,880.52 at midday.

HONG KONG

HONG KONG yesterday staged its biggest rally since February as the stronger yen pushed down interest rates and eased concerns that the economy will slide deeper into recession.

The Hang Seng index rose 477.90 points - 6.4 per cent - to 8,004.35, its biggest gain since 2 February.

The rise in the yen allayed fears that the Hong Kong dollar might have to be devalued and helped interest rates down from their recent peaks.

RUSSIA

RUSSIAN stocks rose as investors said the government must have other sources of cash after it cancelled two of three debt auctions scheduled for today.

The Russian Trading System index rose 5.83 per cent to 181.99. Stocks and bonds have fallen sharply over the past month on fears the rouble would be devalued. The RTS index is down 55 per cent since 1 January, but stocks rose yesterday as the IMF said it would visit Moscow on Monday to discuss

① 6 • • •

Malaysia (ringgits)

6.2961

IN BRIEF

system - later this summer. The exchange said that from 3 August, the German government bond future (the Bund), the Italian government

bond future (the BTP) and

would no longer be traded

on the open-outcry trading

Airport trading

Authority said it believes

that secondary trading in

airport slots is essential to

the flexible operation of

the system, adding that the trading should now be

formally recognised so ...

transparent, and should

no longer be limited to

airlines alone. In a report

that it can be made

THE CIVIL Aviation

the five-year gilt future

Carlton buys disc maker

CARLTON Communications yesterday took a further step into the world of cutting edge entertainment technology by paying £160m for Nimbus Technologies, a leading manufacturer of video discs.

The move will help silence critics who questioned Cariton's reliance on manufacturing and distributing video cassettes in the midst of major technologi-

Cariton already owns California-based Technicolor, the world's higgest producer of pre-recorded video cassettes. It hopes to expand Nimbus, a leading maker of video discs, alongside Technicolor

Video discs have superceded previous technologies in the drive to put visual and audio recordings on to a disc format. They are the size of a compact disc hut can store more data, with better clarity of sound and vision than video cassettes.

A previous attempt to market new video technology by Philips, the electronics giant, failed to take off. Philips introduced laser discs - akin to CDs hut the size of a vinyl album -

BY ANDREW VERITY



Michael Green, chairman of Carlton

over three years ago. However, video discs - also known as "Digital Versatile Discs" - are proving more popular. Last year over 200,000 video disc players were sold in the US. That compares to sales of 100,000 video recorders when they were introduced in 1975.

Video discs also generate fatter profit margins for their manufacturers because they are cheaper to make than CDs. hut sell at higher prices. Prices for the discs are usu-

ally around \$25 (£15) in the US, compared to just \$10 for CDs. They cannot yet be used to record films, although more than one film can be stored on each disc.

Michael Green, chairman of Carlton, said: "Just as the company added video cassettes to its film operations in the 1980s, now we are adding optical discs in the 1990s. Penetration of VCRs, DVD players and PC disc drives are all growing as part of the world expansion of screen-based entertainment."

Lydon Faulkner, chairman and chief executive of Nimbus, said: "Nimhus and Technicolor are an excellent match, and we look forward to working with one of the most respected names in the packaged media industry. We believe there is great potential for rapid growth as a supplier of [video disc] products to the home entertainment and computer soft-

ware industries." Nimbus has been a leading manufacturer of video discs as well as compact discs since it entered an alliance with Philips in 1982.



Stephen Alexander, legal partner, says the RAC is wrong to limit windfalls to full members Andrew Buurman

RAC members to sue for slice of £450m should benefit from the sale of country by firms and would the impending change in status.

MORE THAN 500 overseas and retired members of the Royal Automobile Club are set to launch a legal action to get a slice of £450m in windfall payments when the club is sold off, writes Randeep Ramesh.

The claim, which could top £60m, contends that the wrong decision was made over who

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Gross p.a.

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boda will be pool on the number balance at the end of the TEXNA J term, meters is suspect only the appropriate time in semination point to matters to an interior than death. TEXNA at talence is falled Faverness explaintness which are series paid annually on all above accounts recognished to the favorable point (Special II). Bonus (O) (Specialties and Special II) and metals for all Board (Special II). Bonus (O) (Specialties and Special II) and metals.

the 101-year-old organisation. miss out "through no fault of At present only "full" members of the sumptuous Pall Mall RAC cluh will get a bonus, worth £35,000.

Stephen Alexander, partner with legal firm Epstein Grower, said many overseas mem-

the shoe retailer Oliver, was

heading for a repeat of his con-

frontation with the founding

family of the Liberty depart.

ment store yesterday when he

unveiled plans to push though

a rights issue at the company.

The move comes just weeks

after the family voted against

Mr Cassidy's first fund-raising

After failing with a placing and open offer. Mr Cassidy is

now trying to raise \$5.5m via a

one-for-one rights issue at 25p

This requires the backing of

only a simple majority of more pany." he said.

per share.

their own". Retired members, said Mr Alexander, should also have been given the chance to buy back into the club.

The action holds the 17strong committee which runs the RAC personally responsible

proceeds will be used to fund

the conversion of the existing

store portfolio to two new for-

mats. Oliver's shares closed a

Mr Cassidy said the board

remains "absolutely commit-

ted to the husiness plan out-

lined to shareholders at the end

of April and to the associated

fund-raising required to im-

strategy will continue to com-

mand the support of the ma-

the best interests of the com-

jority of shareholders and is in

Separately the company said

"We firmly believe that this

penny lower at 28.5p

plement the plan.

bers were sent out of the for not telling its members of

£5.5m rights issue

DENIS CASSIDY, chairman of 25.3 million new shares and the

investigating "a number of irregularities" over addresses.

on deregulation, the CAA added that allocation of . slots should reflect the missed the claims. "We have made it very clear who owns the club - it is the members of the Pall Mall cluh. Nobody else does," he said. The club was

The board added that it ex-

pects to be able to resume div-

idend payments once the

proposed strategy has pro-

gressed to a point where oper-

ating cash flow can be expected

to sustain both the investment

programme and the dividend.

said that since late November

1997, there has been a period of

renewed pressure on prices

and margins arising from stock

clearances accompanying the

disposal of the remaining

British Shoe Corporation for-

The company said it believes

mats by Sears.

On future prospects, Oliver

value travellers put on Smart-card trial BARCLAYS PLC said it has commenced a trial of a smart card-based digital signature service called Barclays Endorse. The Government is to make Oliver chairman plans the first use of the service by enabling the newly self-employed to register their status across the

internet. Mortgage rise

WOOLWICH YESTERDAY hecame the latest mortgage lender to raisa its mortgage rates following the Bank of England's interest-rate rise two weeks ago. Variable mortgage rates with Woolwich will now cost 8.95 per cent, up 0.25 percentage points, with immediate effect. The rise means that most of the country's borrowers will now be paying an extra £11.50 a month on the average mortgage of £50,000. All of the that, whilst the impact of the converted building stock clearance will continue to societies have now raised their rates since the Bank of England decision. The

secto1

Savings rates at Nationwide

FROM 18TH JUNE 1998

NEW RATES FOR PERSONAL INVESTORS

£25,000 +

	CashBuilder	
	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
	5.180%	4.45"0
50,000 +	5,30%	4.34***
25,000 - £49,990	4.4040	3.92%
£10,000 - £24,999	4.7000	3.7600
(5,000 - £1,1199	4.468%	3.52%
E500 - £1,1999	1.70%	1.36%
£1 - £490	1,,	
	CapitalBuilder	
	6.0000	5.28%
£50,000 +	n, 50%	4,04"0
£25,000 - £49,099	6,110 ⁿ %	4.80 ⁿ o
£10.000 - £24.1991	5.80°a	4,6~100
Fl - Ediddo	1,011	
-	MonthlyIncome	
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than 50 per cent of shareholdbe felt in the remainder of the it plans to appoint Martin Watts. first half of 1998. Oliver will ers. The last proposal was the current managing director. benefit from the rationalisation backed by 63 per cent of inbank made no statement as group chief executive after vestors against the required 70 of the sector that has taken on savings rates. the rights issue has been comper cent majority. The fund raising will issue All in a day's work for a good watchdog

SO WHAT have Stephen Littlechild and his people at Offer heen getting up to? The electricity regulator's annual report for 1997 gives a hrief glimpse. The report contains a number of case studies of complaints made by customers against electricity

companies. One customer had a submeter installed in 1979 to measure a tenant's electricity use, according to the report.

"The company then set up two accounts, in effect double charging the customer for electricity by the sub-meter," says Offer. The customer complained, but it was not until 1996 that the company acknowledged the error.

Even worse, due to the lack of records the company would only correct the account back

Step forward Mr Littlechild and his fearless regulators. The company argued that there was no evidence of over-charging prior to 1987. Offer countered that the weight of evidence "supported the customer's case, and that the overcharge could be estimated from later usage."

The company reconsidered and repaid the customer a further £1,400 to cover the full period. Full marks to Offer.

It's still pretty depressing, however, to read of another case in the report where a customer was overcharged around £1,300 one year because his charges "had been based on readings from a meter that covered not only the customer's property but also an adjacent shop and flat. The account had also heen based on a commercial tariff," the report adds.

Thankfully Offer got the company to refund the customer's account, All the same, I think I'll be rechecking my electricity bill.

LAST WEEK I wrote ahout how

PEOPLE AND **BUSINESS**

BY JOHN WILLCOCK



the Goldman Sachs economics team in London had launched a World Cup hip service, consisting of one forecast result per week. Jim O'Neill and his fellow economists kicked off with the following prediction: Spain 4 Nigeria 2 In the event Nigeria won 3-2. Oops.

Let's hope Mr O'Neill does better with yesterday's tip: Italy 3 Cameroon 1. And by the way, I asked Jim how the Goldmans economics

team will be benefiting from the £35bn float? "No comment," he replied. HAMISH BRYCE, the man who led the buy-out of Thorn Light-

ing (now TLG) from Thorn EMI five years ago, is to be the new chairman of Norcros, the huilding materials group. Mr Bryce, 56, succeeds nearly 44 years. He is only the

the company as chief executive gallery's 122 years, 10 years ago and became chair-

man in 1993. Joseph Matthews, group chief executive of the Cheshirebased company, said yesterday years. New blood arrived last that Mr Doherty would be spending his retirement playing more golf and concentrating on heing chairman of a London health trust.

Mr Bryce is a busy man himself, being a director of London First and a member of the CBI's National Manufacturing Council. Norcros owns Johnson

Tyles in Stoke on Trent, as well as Triton Showers and a huilding adhesives husiness. Mr Doherty announced at the annual general meeting last year that he would stand down after five years with the company

THE FINE Art Society, one of Britain's oldest art shops founded in 1876, has got a new chairman. Sir Angus Grossart is to succeed Lord Macfarlane of Bearsden.

Lord Macfarlane has chaired the society, whose shop is in Bond Street in London's West End, since 1976. In fact he is something of a newcomer compared to the rest of the distinguished company's board.

Andrew McIntosh Patrick managing director, has now heen with the company for

Michael Doherty, who joined fifth managing director in the

The other executive directors, Peyton Skinworth and Simon Edsor, have each been with the company for over 30 year, however, in the shape of Gordon Cooke and Annamarie Stapleton.

The newest new boy, Sir-Angus Grossart, is chairman of hankers Noble Grossart and a vice chairman of the Royal Bank of Scotland. He's a regular collector of company directorships, including British Petroleum, Mirror Group and Scottish and Newcastle, I wonder how be finds the time to get to all the board meetings.

AROMASCAN SAID yesterday that Richard Lyman has resigned from the board as executive chairman, with immediate effect.

Peter Ryan, who has held the position of non-executive director since 1994, has agreed to accept the position of non-executive chairman, the company said. Gordon Kuenster and Dr Donald Hetzel, who were appointed to the board on 3 February 1998, will remain with the company.

"They continue to be of great assistance in both the development of the business and the acceleration of the company's product development programme," AromaScan said.

		COMPANY	RESULTS			
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In fact nothing could be further from the truth, she says. Merger activity is a normal part of competitive markets and "it can itself stimulate efficiency and improve competitiveness". Blimey! That's a bit of a change of beart isn't it? Is this really the same Mrs Beckett who before the election argued that the public interest test of a merger should be that the bidder demonstrate positive benefits before being allowed to proceed, a process which would have put paid to virtually all acquisition activity?

Mrs Beckett asks to be judged on ber record. The reality, she says, is that of the 200 mergers she has considered since last May, only four against the advice of the Office of

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OUTLOOK

were prohibited and in all these cases it was in accordance with the advice of the Director General of Fair Trading, John Bridgeman. Never mind that in one of the cases, Bass/Carlsberg-Tetley, it was against the conditional recommendation of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission that it be allowed to proceed.

Fair enough. Or is It? In fact Mrs Beckett is being just a little disingenuous with the analysis. The cases of prohibition she refers to are all after lengthy investigation by the MMC. What she fails to point out is that on four other occasions since she came to power she has gone

Fair Trading in referring bids to the MMC, a decision that mat least one case has amounted to a prohibition since it allowed a rival bidder to slip in and snatch the prize.

Nor does she admit to the timehonoured practice adopted by successive Trade and Industry Secretaries of leaning on the Office of Fair Trading to deliver the "right" advice, so that the Government is not embarrassed in having to rule against it. It happened all the time when Michael Heseltine was at the DTL His Director General of Fair Trading, Bryan Carsberg, eventually got so fed up with it that he resigned for an obscure post in accountancy academia. Mrs Beckett doesn't appear to be an exception. It is, for instance, well known that the DTI bludgeoned the OFT into recommending a reference of Ladbroke's bid for Coral Not that either side will ever admit to it.

If Mrs Beckett thinks she's misunderstood, then she ought to explain herself a bit better. Everybody else is into transparency of decisionmaking these days. It doesn't seem to have done the Bank of England any harm. So why not the DTI too? And let's not have the argument that it lays the Secretary of State's de-

cisions open to judicial review. A decision which is self-evidently right and justified is not going to be

Up, up and away for earnings

IS IT all beginning to go wrong for the Iron Chancellor? For a while it seemed that his predecessor, Kenneth Clarke, had achieved the holy grail of economic policy, which is to have economic growth persistently outstripping inflation. That enviable environment of high growth and low inflation now seems to be reverting back to the old British habit of low growth and, if not quite high inflation, certainly higher than anyone would like it.

Yesterday's clutch of economic statistics was a defining moment. Unemployment has started to climb again for the first time in two years, albeit on the old measurement which the new Government prefers not to use. At the same time, earnings are roaring away at a rate which is incompatible with the Government's inflation target. It now looks much more likely the next

change in interest rates will be up manufacturing sector does not, but rather than down. We're about to be you cannot have policy dictated by plunged into recession, some pundits are warning.

لكذا عن ألاصل

To some extent the Chancellor is justified in claiming that none of this is his fault. What we are looking at here are the after-effects of the Clarke boom, belatedly and unsuccessfully stoked up to help the Tories win the last election. On the other hand it can also be argued that the Chancellor has dealt with it badly. He's locked himself into an independently determined interest rate policy dictated by rigid adherence to an inflation target that . may not be wholly realistic in present circumstances. He's also failed sufficiently to counter the upward shift in interest rates with appropriate cuts in spending and increases in tax. On the former he's doing the reverse.

But while these arguments may have some merit, those who peddle them do so too strongly. The truth of the matter is that the economy is slowing but it is not slipping into rccession. The great hulk of the economy demands the interest rate policy which is being independently set by the Bank of England.

It is unfortunate that the poor old

what is now a small and unrepresentative minority of the British economy. For the best assessment, look to the markets, which are much more concerned with what is happening internationally than anything Gordon Brown can be faulted for.

Thorn's beggars can't be choosers

THE HORIZONTAL hold at Thorn went on the blink a long time ago, so yesterday's news that the rentals business has sold its troublesome American operations for a better than expected price must have had battle-weary shareholders pinching themselves. Could this really be true, that the ugly sister of EMI was finally issuing a positive bulletin?

True it is. And not only that but the main thorn in the company's side - a lorry load of US litigation - has been offloaded too, with no ongoing liability.

That £545m was a good price was clear enough from the reaction of the shares, which managed to shoot up 10 per cent before the deal had but beggars can't be choosers.

but a Stock Exchange inquiry for someone). But does this deal really get this under-performing company off the hook?

It certainly prods Thorn in the right direction. With America gone, management can now concentrate on selling the Scandinavian and Asia-Pacific operations before knuckling down to its only remaining region, the UK. This is what Thorn should have done years ago. The model is Thorn's main rival. Granada, which is run for cash and produces a spectacular return. While Granada can use the money to invest in its other growth businesses in leisure and media, Thorn can return it to shareholders.

With its core business declining at the rate of 5 per cent a year and the shares already well above their low, there may not be much left for hidders to go for But with a dividend yield of 8 per cent and the prospect of more capital returns, Thorn may have a viable independent future as a kind of junk bond whose higher risk is compensated for by higher dividend returns. Not exactly what management had in mind when the business was demerged from EMI two years ago

> In its early days, the cable industry' most obvious presence was gaping holes in

pavements as it strove to cover the country, causing huge annoyance. Then the industry

accountants: now the marketing experts are putting

together attractive bundles of services

Rex Features

for consumers

was led by engineers and

Suddenly it's time to take the cable sector seriously

BY PETER THAL LARSEN News Analysis: The cable industry WHAT IS going on in the cable has staged a remarkable comeback. industry? Early last year, Britain counted more than 10 leaving British Telecom and BSkyB cable companies, each with looking warily over their shoulders

heavy debt loads, poor service levels and - in the case of the ones with stock market listings bysmal share price performances. Cable was a laughing rently takes it. This is partly for historical stock, a hlack hole of an industry that had swallowed up

decent return.

ising again.

ffectively reduces the number

players in the cable industry

o three. Suddenly, cable is

being talked of as a serious

competitor to British Telecom

and British Sky Broadcasting.

And, for the first time in living

memory, share prices are

NTL's acquisition is the lat-

est in a string of deals in the sector. First off the mark was

Cable & Wireless, which

merged its Mercury long-dis-

tance operator with cable op-

Cablemedia and Videotron to

form Cable & Wireless Com-

munications. That was fol-

lowed by NTL's acquisition of

rival operator Comcast for

1600m earlier this year. And

then Telewest beat NTL in the

lattle to take control of General

The result is that the cable

idustry now consists of three

ompanies, each with fran-

cisea covering large swathes

et, has over 5m homes under

its control while CWC has more

That said, cable operators

to offering telephone lines as

ell, just one in five of the

sill have a lot to prove. Since 184, when the government

of the country. NTL, the small-

(able with a £649m bid.

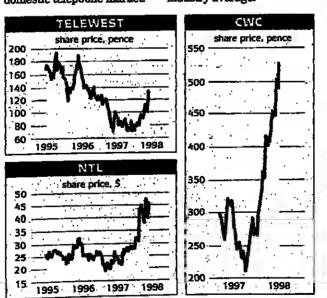
erators Nynex.

reasons. When cable was first introduced, operators only offered television on the cash but was never likely to offer its investors any kind of assumption that it would enjoy the same success as it had in A little over 12 months on, the picture has changed drathe US. Telephone lines were only added after 1991, when the natically. Tuesday's £1.4bn Government opened up the woop by NTL, the aggressive domestic telephone market. S operator, on its smaller ivals ComTel and Diamond

homes which have access to A new generation of managers one or more of the services curhave been brought in to raise service levels, and operators are also improving penetration levels by hundling together a telephone line with a basic package of cable television

channels.

That combination has allowed NTL to increase penetration levels to around 40 per cent - roughly double the industry average.



FR	HOMES IN	HOMES	TV PENETRATIO
	ANCHISE AREA	PASSED	RATE ***
CWC Telewest* General Cable Telewest total NTL* Comcast ComTel Diamond Cable NTL total	5,867,369 4,406,963 1,345,501 5,752,464 2,090,000 1,059,898 1,117,977 1,229,900 5,497,775 ce: Cable Communica	3,693,826 3,096,720 794,281 3,891,001 861,495 661,230 854,680 405,787 2783192	20.0 22.3 20.4 35.9 26.0 17.8 20.8

rst parcelled the country up ito hundreds of small fran-However, cable operators aises and sold them off, more also have themselves to blame tan £7bn has been spent digfor their travails. In their drive ing up roads and uprooting to lay cable as quickly and font gardens to bring cable to cheaply as possible, serving the eery home. Experts reckon it vill cost at least another £5bn customer was often an afterrun by civil engineers and t complete the job. Operators have little to show fr all that effort. Even though accountants," says one industey have switched from propeople who connected to the vding just cable television - for service soon became disilluthich there was little appetite sioned and switched off again.

"We started listening to our customers," boasts Barclay Knapp, NTL's chief executive. "We didn't try to cram more trashy American television down their throats."

Industry executives are even more bullish about the future. They argue that the UK cable network is, in effect, the information superhighway so beloved of New Labour. By Slowly the focus is changing cable companies are now able ing investors.

to offer high-speed access to the internet and interactive television, with all the related services such as home shop-

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This means that, for the first time, cable operators have an advantage over competitors such as British Sky Broadcasting, who do not have access to a fixed network when offering interactive services.

"Everybody is looking for the silver bullet that will drive penetration," says Richard Woollam, managing partner of the consultancy European Communications Network. "The fact is that cable is the perfect delivery mechanism for broadband services."

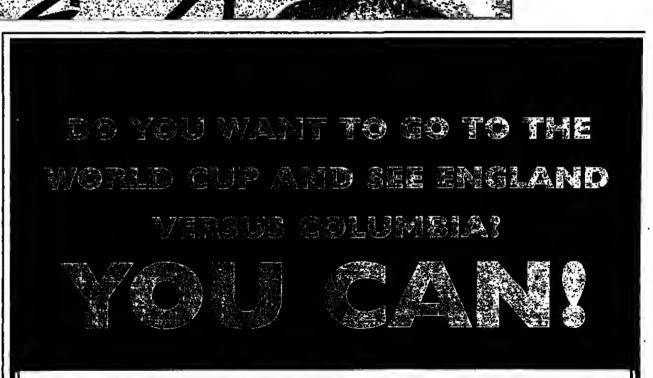
This does not mean that the cable industry is out of the woods, however. Analysts sugest that operators still have a lot to do attract business users, whose use of telephone lines is more intensive and therefore argue that the number of cable companies may have to shrink even further to two or maybe even just one, in order to fully exploit the efficiencies of hav-

ing a national network. · Nothing is likely to happen soon, bowever. All three cable. companies still have to digest their most recent acquisitions. NTL and Telewest are also heavily burdened with debt which makes it hard for them to pursue further mergers.

Consolidation is also complicated by the companies' shareholding structures. Cable & Wireless, which has a controlling stake in CWC, would be reluctant to see its shareholding diluted if the company nose to issue shares. Meanwhile, Telewest's destiny is largely in the hands of its major shareholder, the telecom operator US West.

"There clearly is a logic for more consolidation but the real question is on whose terms it will take place. In our view it should be CWC's because of its much strong financial position," says Chris Godsmark, telecoms analyst at stockbroker Henderson Crosthwaite.

Nevertheless, the cable industry's return from the dead still amounts to a major achievement. The companies will now have to prove that, with the outlook more rosy than it has ever been before, they can finally start to make laying fibre-optic cable, the a return for their long-suffer-



The Independent and Lavazza Coffee, who are an official sponsor of the World Cup 98, are offering one lucky reader the chance to win a pair of tickets to watch the game between England and Colombia live in Lens on Friday 26th June. The winner will be a guest of Lavazza Coffee - 'The Italian's favourite coffee'. The winner will have to make their way to London to rendezvous at the Lavazza offices in Chiswick for an early start to France on the morning of June 26th. The trip includes travel from London, accommodation, dinner and transfers to and from the match. You will return to London on the 27th June.

Q : - Who scored England's first goal in France 98t

- Shearer
- b) Scholes
- Sheringham

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American support boosts Footsie

FOOTSIE ENJOYED its first threefigure gain for more than four months as world stock markets responded to America's helping hand

for the beleaguered Japanese yen. With Hong Kong staging a recovery and New York in ebullient form, blue chips were back in buoyant mood with double-digit gains. But Footsie's 103 points uplift to 5.832.7 contrasted sharply with the performance of the mid cap index, down 19.6 at 5,683.9. The second liners, which had been in rampant form, have slithered in the last six sessions with their index falling 282.5. Government stocks were also

weak, falling by up to a pound. The US intervention, seen as what could be a decisive move in tackling the Asian slump, predictably lifted shares with strong Far Eastern connections with

HSBC scoring a 104p gain to 1,540p. Still, trading was not beavy and many market men, although relieved at the sudden change of sentiment, were suspicion of the upsurge, suggesting it lacked con-

Billiton led the Footsie charge.



hope for improvements in the Far East. A planned share buy-back was responsible for a 10.75p gain to

Less than a year after extracting cash from optimistic investors via a London flotation the South African mining group has decided to buy back up to 10 per cent of its

The group is exploiting its poor share performance. The shares arrived last summer at around 222p; subsequently reaching 249p. They were hit by poor metal prices and Its progress owed little to the new were resting near their low ahead

of the huy-back announcement. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson will. no doubt, be pleased by the Billiton initiative. It is thought to have a large parcel of the stock stuck on its book, acquired as part of a

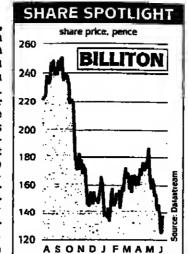
bought deal at around 150p a share. Other blue chips to race higher included Nycomed Amersham, the health care group. SG Securities said buy following the Swedish investment presentation. Spirits giant Diageo strengthened 47.50 to 7370 on rumoured Morgan Stanley interest and Marks & Spencer shrugged off suggestions of poor

sales with a 27p plus to 560p.

The Glaxo Wellcome bid for SmithKline Beecham story contirmed to circulate with Glaxo up 68p to 1,775p and SB 11.5p to 735.5p.

It was not, of course, all one-way traffic. British Energy took a pasting, falling 42p to 558p; Deutsche Morgan Grenfell was thought to have reduced its stance to underweight. BTR, thought to be on the City investment round, fell 3p to 174p with DKB making negative noises.

Reuters added 17p to 708p ahead of a technology seminar on Monday. British Petroleum, planning to



boost its Alaskan output by more than 20 per cent over the next few years, gained 12p to 875p. It explained its intentions to analysts, looking over its Alaskan operations.

BT rose another 26.5p to 698.5p. BT Alex.Brown has an 800p target and believes the shares could, in certain favourable circumstances.

Vaux, the Sunderland group

where takeover talks ended on Friday, rose 10p to 325p. Reports Enterprise Inns would be prepared to buy the brewers' pub estate seemed to prompt the gain,

Thorn, the rental chain, had an eventful session. The shares ended at 220p, up 10.5p, after touching 237.50 in hectic dealing. The boys in dark glasses got hold of a story that the mooted takeover bid was on its way and piled in. But the bid, rumoured to be from the Barclay brothers, failed to materialise; instead Thorn started its overseas withdrawal by seiling its US oper-

tions to Renters Choice for £545m. ISA International, a distributor of information processing equipment, produced the session's profit warning and promptly collapsed a further 21.5p to 41p.

The mysterious goings on at Huntingdon Life Sciences on Tuesday were solved when it became apparent Robert Fleming had sold most, if not all, of its 14.46 per cent shareholding. Most of it seems to have ended up with the market-making arm of Merrill

The stock was dumped with terest to 21.7 per cent.

Huntingdon becoming aware of Fleming's departure around midmorning. The testing agency, which was hit by allegations of cruelty to animals in its laboratories last year, is a target of animal rights activists who have threatened to embarrass fund managers supporting the company. The shares, down a fur-

ther 1p to a 17.5p low, crashed 15p

Oliver, the shoe shop chain, fell 1p to 28.5p as chairman Denis Cassidy made another attempt to raise £5.7m. Norbain, the closed circuit TV group, put on 6.5p to 281.5p; Butterfield, the stockbroker, said the recent weakness offered a good buying opportunity. Analyst Luke Ahern sees profits £4.75m last year

and £5.75m this year. Despite the signs that car groups are under pressure, with two profit warnings in the past few days, HR Owen, the upmarket car dealer, edged ahead 0.75p to 17.75p. There is talk of a possible bid - with Pendragon the name on the forecourt - or an attempt to take the group private. Chief executive Nicholas Lancaster last week lifted his in-

FIRST CHOICE, Britain's third largest holidays group which embraces the Air 2,000 airline, is rumoured to be planning to swoop on EasyJet, the cut price airline planning a stock market flotation. EasyJet, started in 1995, is owned by the Haji-loannou family. It has seven aircraft. Price of the deal is said to be around £110m.

DEAN CORPORATION, the builder and property services group, has taken over a property maintenance company. Castellain, for up to £250,000. The shares softened to 15.5p.

COMINO, THE software group, weakened 10p to 267.5p, al-Broe is bullish. Analyst Peter Whiting looks for profits of £2.6m this year and £3.2m next. Recent strength of the shares has given the group the scope to make more acquisitions.

SEAQ VOLUME: 943 million SEAQ TRADES: 67,683 GILT INDEX: 104.9 -1.05

- Billiton buyback adds value to shares

GIVEN THAT Billiton raised about £1bn when it joined the London stock market at a share price of 220p a year ago, the news that it is planning to buy back some of those shares at almost half the price is hardly cause for celebration.

Nevertheless, the market was overjoyed to hear yesterday that Billiton is seeking permission to buy in 10 per cent of its share capital, and pushed up the shares 11.5p to 138p.

In truth, the mining group has had a dismal time since it was spun off from the South African giant, Gencor, last year, The turmoil in the Asian economies has knocked commodity prices and the share prices of most mining firms. Matters were made worse for Billiton last month when a stockbroker bungled a large

· According to the finance director, Mick Davies, the board reckons the shares offer good value at these levels. But should investors come to the same conclusion? Billiton's shares have fallen a long way. Its earnings and growth prospects have taken a serious nock, and so far there appears to be little sign that things are

INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY NIGEL COPE

10 per cent of its share capital but shareholders could still be also shows a lack of imagination in for a "Brucie Bonus" if the on Billiton's part. The company argues that the buyback solidly as this. Full-year profits will not restrict its ability to of £32.3m were ahead of invest or make acquisitions. But its failure to deliver the deals it hinted at last summer - even though potential targets are rapidly becoming cheaper for a hefty chunk of sales.

 is hardly encouraging. Given that the actual huyback will have to wait until the Government clarifies its changes to advance corporation tax, the market may be getting overexcited. But Billiton has bighlighted the value in its shares. Even after yesterday's rise, they now trade on a forward multiple of less than 10 times June 1999 earnings. Good

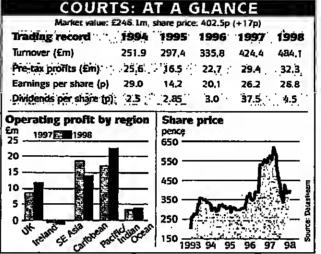
Courts comes bouncing back

COURTS, the furniture retailer,

newly-raised cash buying back from its television advertising, company keeps trading as expectations and were achieved in spite of currency effects and the financial turmoil in the Far East which accounts

> In the UK, same-store sales were ahead by 11.7 per cent on the previous year on a like-forlike basis. This is impressive given recent profits warnings from rivals such as DFS, MFI and Carpetright. These companies have blamed slowing sales on higher interest rates and the poor weather over the Easter holiday weekend, and Courts too could have been a victim. But though its sales growth has slowed to around 5per cent, on current trading it is still gaining market share at these levels.

what is the secret? Court claims its larger stores enable it to offer a wide range of fur-To spend close to £300m of may have axed Bruce Forsythe niture, carpets and fahrics,



Courts shares have had a

poor year, but they bounced

back by 17.5p to 402.5p yester-

day on the release of the fig-

ures. On current-year profit

forecasts of £36m, the shares

trade on a forward rating of 13.

For a well-managed company in

an unloved sector, that looks

while most of its rivals concentrate on just one sector. Added to this "one stop shop" approach is its new line in electrical goods which are pulling in more shoppers even though the costs of the roll-out means they are unlikely to be a moneyspinner just yet.

Elsewhere, operating profits in the Far East fell by 25 per cent. But total sales still grew so profits should bounce back when the exchange rates stapostponed due to the turmoil

Thin margins at ISA

THINGS ARE looking grim for ISA International. The distributor of office-supplies and stationery yesterday issued its second profit warning in seven months, and saw its alreadybattered share price collapse 34 per cent to an all-time low of squeeze on margins in its core markets meant that 1998 profits would be "materially below current market expectations"

of around £8.7m. City analysts slashed their forecasts for pre-tax profits to £6m in response and warned of

more trouble to come. ISA's woes are unlikely to ease in the near term. The European market for printer cartridges, toners and similar electronic office supplies, which accounts for the hulk of the company's sales, is highly comgoods are likely to remain

More traditional office supplies, such as pens and paper, yield higher margins, but ISA is a relative newcomer to the market and will need time to integrate John Heath & Co, the stationery wholesaler it bought in February.

Optimists point out that in the long run, cross-selling of electronic supplies and tradi-41p. The company said a tional stationery should bolster profits. Failing that, the slump in shares from their peak of 240p, reached in December 1996, could attract the interest of a predator.

But with most of ISA's competitors struggling with similar problems, it is hard to see where a bid might come from. So, even with its bargain-basement rating of five, ISA looks one to stay well clear of. For those unlucky enough to hold the stock already, however, there does not seem much point in baling out at these low

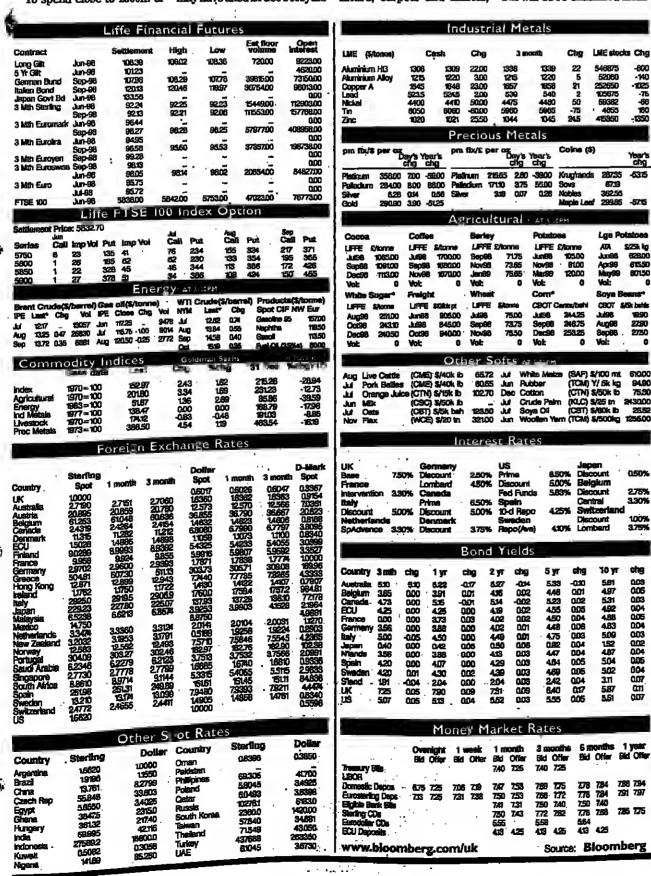
Premier and Shell join forces

PREMIER OIL and Royal Dutch/Shell's unit Shell Exploration BV yesterday announced they had agreed to combine their onshore exploration, development and production interests in Pakistan into a joint venture company valued at about \$390m.

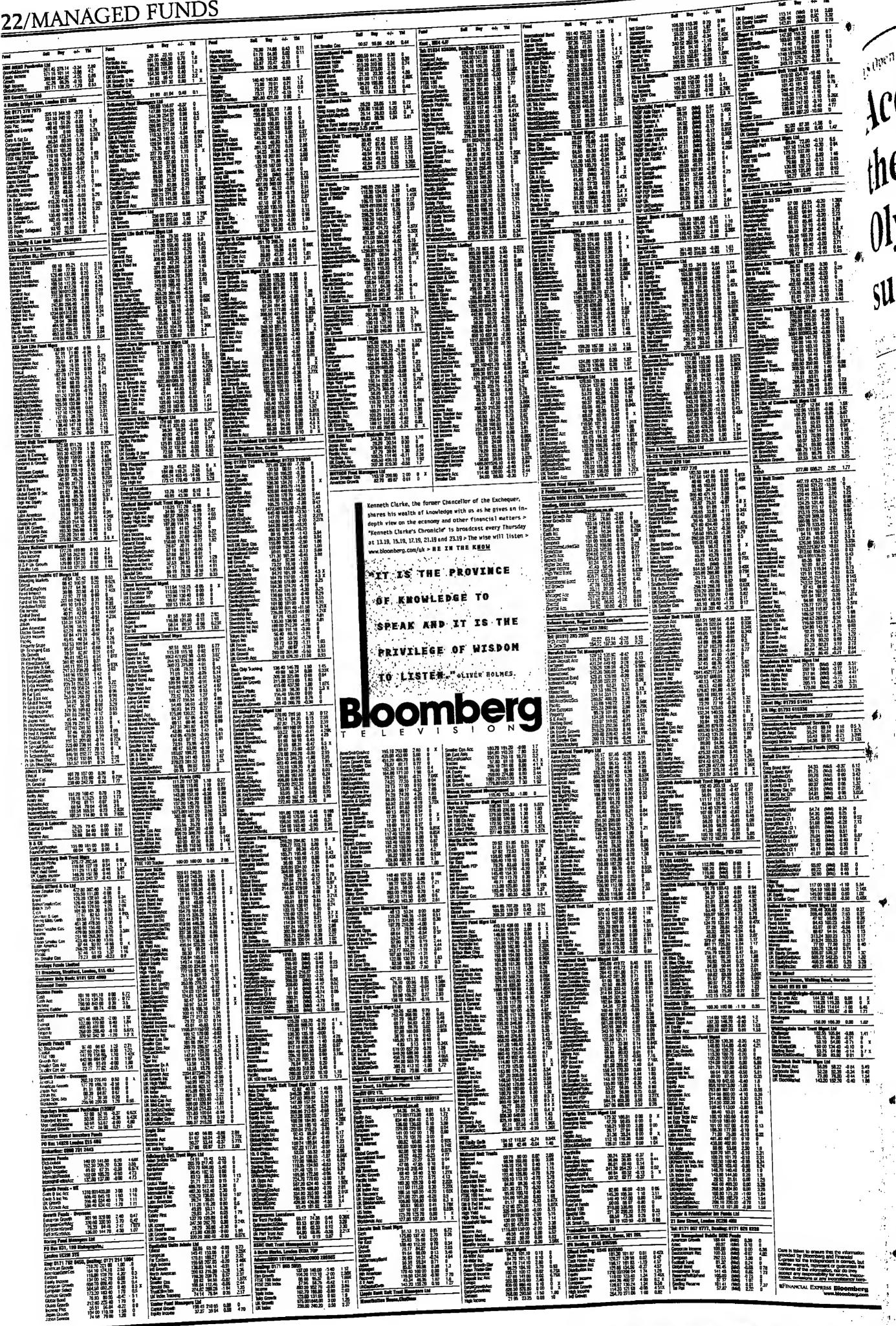
Premier will hold a 50.1 per cent equity interest and act as operator of the joint venture company, which will manage existing and future onshore upstream activities.

The venture is the second major alliance Shell has formed with an independent oil company to search mainly for gas in the region and reflects both Shell's thirst for new gas supplies in Asia and the expertise of smaller companies in exploiting those reserves.

Shares of Premier rose 1p to 46.75p. Shell Transportation & Trading shares in London, reflecting 40 per cent of the group, were up 2p at 420p.







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THE INDEPENDENT

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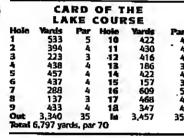
Accuracy the key to .Olympic success

BY ANDY FARRELL in San Francisco

OLYMPIC CLUB sits on the infamous San Andreas fault line, but during the three previous US Opens played here, record books show no seismographic activity. The shocks were solely of the golfing kind as Ben Hogan, Arnold Palmer and Tom Watson were all defeated by opponents expected to disappear down their own fault lines.

With Jack Fleck, Billy Casper and Scott Simpson the previous winners at Olympic, predicting a winner here is clearly as inexact a science as weather or earthquake forecasting, even before considering a field that is as wide open as the fairways

So far this week there have been a couple of minor tremors. One last



Sımday reached 4.0 on the Richter Scale. 'It is a lot hetter to have a series of small tremors like these," cartographic technician Tamara Wilson said. They help relieve the pressure on the big faults and lessen the chances of a major quake."

Much the same could he said about Colin Montgomerie and the nined to arrive on the first tee today in as relaxed a frame should just slow down a bit for a couof mind as possible. With two seconds and a third in the last six years, Montgomerie has been agonisingly close to following Tony Jacklin in 1970 as a British winner of the US Open. Last year Monty won the European Grand Prix the week before going to Congressional, where he opened with a brilliant 65. But the following day he slumped to a 76, after which he never quite caught Ernie Els.

This time the preparation has been different. Montgomerie flew out to San Diego last week for a few days' practice and is fully acclimatised to the eight-hour time difference. Much of his confidence is I'm going to improve and really built on the fact that he hits his threewood both long and straight.

While it is no surprise that Tiger Woods will he surrendering his driwer for a two-iron to negotiate the tree-lined doglegs, it is a blow for Monty that he will not have his favourite club in his hands as often as he would like. "I have an advantage when you need length and accuracy, as at Congressional," he said. "Here, you just need accuracy."

Olympic measures just 6,797 yards, hut it plays longer than on paper, as three of the par-threes are short by modern standards and the par-four seventh stretches to just 288 yards, but requires pin-point precision. "Potential disaster awaits on every hole," Monty said.

Watson, who says he has never seen thicker rough and that if the wind blows the winning score could be over par, tipped left-to-right hit-ters to do well. "I wish I still faded the ball," Montgomerie sighed. "But it's nice to hear a player of that status think I am among the favourites."

With shot-making perhaps the requirement this week, as old-fashioned a concept as that might be in the days of the power game, Justin Leonard, himself a throwback to more chivairous days, is attracting attention. Just 26 on Monday, Leonard has outstanding pedigree as a winner of the Open last July and of the US Players' Championship in March

David Duval, with five victories since October, comes into the same category as does Jose Maria Olazabal. If the Spaniard really has solved his driving problems, as he suggested at Westchester last week, an addition to his 1994 Masters win cannot he far away. Lee Westwood must also come into consideration, contended for a major before. He is, though, a quick learner.

could not have hit at a worse time, is tentatively easing himself back ple of weeks. There will he more US Opens and British Opens."

His only saving grace is that there is less need to unfur! his driver at full power. "You just can't rip a driver down every fairway. You have to he patient. You are playing boring golf again, trying to hit fairways and greens and make pars," he said.

If that is good for the defending champion it is not a style of golf with which Woods is familiar. None of his professional victories have come on tight golf courses. "I am only 22." he said. "I have a lot of time to play in this tournament. As time goes on learn how to play US Open courses. You have to have a different mindset from normal tournaments."

If Mark O'Meara, the Masters champion, arrived here as Woods did last year - as the only man capable of the Grand Slam - Woods has his own double in mind. Sunday is Father's Day and Woods has already won this year on Mothering Sunday. "It would be pretty cool," he said. "I'm 50 per cent there."



with the proviso that he has not yet Colin Montgomerie: Thave an advantage when you need length and accuracy, but here you just need accuracy

Doubts remain, however, about the top two players on the world the top two players on the top two players on the world the top two players on the top two risks the bride's wrath

KEN PEYRE-FERRY is one of the 44 players who will today make their debut in the US Open but the only one facing a family crisis if he performs well, writes Andy Farrell.

Playing in his national championship has been a long-held ambition of the 49-year-old club pro from New Jersey. He filled in application forms for the qualifying for almost 30 years. This year he almost did not bother since Kenny, his son and assistant pro at Little Mill in Mariton,

due to get married on Saturday. "With your luck," Kenny said, you'll make it this time." Last week Peyre-Ferry, with Kenny as his caddie, arrived at the last hole at a qualifier requiring a birdie to book a trip to the Olympic Club and his ap-

proach finished 15 feet from the hole. There were no words exchanged; our eyes just met," Ken said. "There were so many things going through our heads. All that planning and all that preparing had all come together in one split second. Finally, Kenny says: 'Dad, you make this and we're in a world of trouble'."

The wedding has been 18 months STEVEN BOTTOMLEY, the 33-yearin the planning and the bride, Pam Wilson, was far from happy at the disruption to the schedule. "You can't blame her," said her future father-in-

law. "This is my fault for qualifying." The rebearsal, planned for today, the opening day of the US Open, was moved forward to last Monday. Kenny then flew across the country to San Francisco to join his father on Tuesday. He will caddie for the first two rounds before jumping on the "red-eye" overnight flight and arriving back on the east coast eight

bours before he is due at the altar. If Peyre-Ferry misses the cut, as he has done in all four of the PGA Club Pros Championships he has played in, then he will be on the plane as well. If he qualifies for the last two rounds, he has a faces a dilemma he has yet to resolve. "Would you miss your only son's wedding?" he asks.

If anyone is talking him into staying, it is Kenny. "I honestly felt I should be at the wedding no matter what but Kenny has been adamant, very adamant that I should stay."

BY JOHN OAKLEY

old Yorkshireman from Bingley, brought back memories of his performance at the 1995 Open at St Andrews, when he returned to a discarded putter in Madeira yesterday. Bottomley, whose golf has gone

into a severe slump during the past 18 months, shot an eight-under-par 64 in the Madeira Island Open proam, and it was the putter he used at St Andrews that did the damage.

He shot 69 in the final round to finish joint third, one shot behind John Daly and Costantino Rocca at St Andrews, using a Ping B61 putter. However, last year, after losing his European Tour card, he discarded the club and has used another 10 put-

He said: "I put that putter away after the qualifying school and told myself it wasn't coming back out again. But since then, I've had a very difficult time. I've been playing mainly on the Challenge Tour but after nine seasons on the main tour. I've found it difficult to get motivated. "Last week in Austria, I putted

putters - I've got quite a few - and brought out the old Ping B61, which nearly won me the Open when I sank putts from all over the place."

This week, all the European Tour's leading players are competing in the US Open, and Bottomley added: "This is a great week for me. It's a chance to do what Thomas Levet, the French guy, did earlier in the season - come from nowhere and make your whole year. Today, I holed a few really good putts and my confidence is certainly returning. I just hope I can keep it up."

Unlike Bottomley, the South African Wayne Westner, one of the biggest names in the Madeira field, will not be given the chance to make his year. Westner tore ankle ligaments at the 11th hole during the pro-am after driving close to the lake. He was standing on wooden sleepers when a rotten one collapsed feet. His ankle was put in a cast at the local hospital, and his tournament was over before it had begun.

Westner should have played with two former winners - the Spaniard

McKenzie makes Scots'

line-up for second Test

horribly I went into my hig hag of Santiago Luna and Sweden's Mats Lanner - in the first round today and there is no reserve available.

> Luna, who won in Madeira in 1995 and was second in the Benson and Hedges at the Oxfordshire Golf Chub last month, is 16th in the Order of Merit and is favourite to win here again. Colin Montgomerie is second favourite behind Tiger Woods at

> the start of today's US Open, and at 9-1 with Ladbrokes, the American is the biggest price he has been for any tournament in the past year. The 1997 US Masters winner has

dominated the bookies' lists for every tournament he has contested since, but the Briton is closing the gap. Montgomerie is 12-1 for the tournament at the Olympic Club. A Ladbrokes spokesman said: "Although Monty has never won a major, he has come closest in the US Open - and we think this represents his best chance yet. Tigermania under him, and he fell more than six has wanted in the last 12 months -Woods was as low as 3-1 for some tournaments, but not any more." Behind Woods and Montgomerie.

Ladbrokes rate last year's winner. Ernie Els. at 14-1 to retain his title

England turn off charm as Uttley ushers away hosts

RUGBY UNION

BY CHRIS HEWETT in Dunedin

MOST NEW Zealanders subscribe to the view that England's current crop of rugby tourists should spend at least some of their spare time exploring alternative employment opportunities. On yesterday's evidence, the visitors can abandon any thoughts of a collective career in the security services; Clive Woodward's cloak and dagger attempts to keep the All Blacks guessing in advance of this weekend's opening Test backfired when around 100 students and the entire South Island media g descended on a training session he assumed was being held behind closed doors.

Quite how the England coach reached that assumption may forever remain a mystery, naving cactor ed to use the excellent Otago land line-up. Woodward may, how-dead at Twickenham during Eng-

the large and enthusiastic rugby fraternity, especially as a big college game was in progress not 20 metres away from the training pitch. In the event, it was left to Roger Uttley, the tour manager, to evict the students from part of their own campus.

Given that some 3,000 spectators had been permitted to watch the All-Blacks train in Queenstown earlier in the week, England were made to look both small-minded and paranoid. Utiley went about his awkward task in gentlemanly fashion but the incident remained the public relations version of an own goal A charm offensive without an ounce of kering with his selection until

The almost oceanic gulf hetween and proven expertise made it difficult to imagine any All Black lying awake at night, fretting over the Eng - indeed, he stopped Lomu stone

more bold, make-do-and-mend experimentation in his muchmaligned back division.

Tim Stimpson, still a little short of match filmess but very much in the asset. swing of things with his goal-kicking, spent most of yesterday's session on the right wing. Josh Lewsey, meanwhile, was running at inside centre, with Jonny Wilkinson in his favoured position of stand-off and Matt Perry in his optimum role of full-back. Nick Beal and Austin Healey completed the unit at outside centre and left wing respectively.

Woodward is well capable of tinshortly before kick-off, but yesterday's formation had a logical look the two sides in terms of experience to it, as well as an inventive one. Stimpson possesses the physical clout to compete with Jonah Lomu

University facilities here, he might have anticipated some interest from Zealanders by surprise with yet Barbarians 18 months ago – and while he is lacking a yard of pace after a frustrating season on the Newcastle margins, his big hoof of a right boot would be an invaluable

So, too, would Lewsey's defensive capabilities in the face of the threat posed by Andrew Mehrtens and Walter Little in the All Black midfield. Woodward has identified the Bristol youngster as his most secure back-line tackler and the absence of both Steve Ravenscroft and Jos Baxendell from yesterday's work-out suggested that the selectors had bitten the bullet and backed their gamhlers' instincts.

No such shots in the dark for the of diplomacy. All Blacks, of course. A calf strain suffered by Anton Oliver, the successor to Sean Fitzpatrick as hooker and chief winder-up, was the only worry for John Hart and his coaching staff as the home side seem a soft touch.



Stimpson: Long face-off

completed their preparations in the dramatic surroundings of Queenstown and flew to Dunedin

"I expect Anton to come through, every bit as much as I expect England to pose a formidable challenge. especially up front in the forwards," aid Hart with his customary degree

On the quiet, he also expects his beam to win by a distance, especially as Little, Robin Brooke and Michael Jones have passed fitness tests. Suddenly, the Wallabies in Brisbane

The Stirling player, who played last Saturday after replacing the injured Gordon Bulloch, held off the challenge of Steve Brotherstone.

who is named on the bench. McKenzie's selection reflects the need for as much experience as pos-

sible in the team and the belief that the hooker's shortcomings at the throw-in can he rectified. "We have heen working with McKenzie and equally so Brother-

stone to make sure each is equally adept. The throws have to he accurate," said the Scotland coach, Jim Telfer.

Scotland have fitness worries over the wing Derrick Lee, who picked up an injury in the midweek side's 27-22 defeat by Queensland in Brisbane on Wednesday. Lee has bruising on his Achilles tendon and did not take part in training yester-

If Lee is ruled out then the like- letic Ground next term.

KEVIN McKENZIE is the choice for lihood is that Craig Joiner will play

hooker in the Scotland side to face on the right wing and Hugh Gilmour. the Wallabies at Ballymore on Sat- who put in an impressive perforurday in the second of the two-Test mance at full-back against Queensland and who is unlucky not to he named in the squad of 22, will be proall but six minutes of the first Test moted to the replacements' bench.

Ireland will field an unchanged side for Saturday's second Test in Pretoria. Ireland lost the first Test 37-13 in Bloemfontein last Saturday. but surprised the Springboks with that performance.

SCOTLAND (v Australia, second Test, Ballymore, Saturday): G Meccalfe; O Lee, C Murray, R Shepherd, S Longstaff; G Townsend, B Redpath: D Hilton, K McKenzle, M Proudfoot, S Murray, 5 Grimes, R Walmwright (capt). E Peters, G Simpon, Replacements: C Johner, D Hodge, G Burns, A Rouburgh, S Campbell, G McIlwham, S Brotherstone.

wham, S Brotherstone.

RRELAND (w South Africa, second Tast, Preborla, Saturday): C O'Shea; J Bishop, M McCal, K Maggs, O Hickie; E Elwood, C McGuinness;
V Costello, A Ward, O O'Culmeagin, M O'Kelly, P Johns (capt), P Wallace, K Wood, J Rizpatrick,

 London Scottish have secured a ground-sharing arrangement with Harlequins next season, Scottish, newly promoted to Premiership One, will play at The Stoop for an initial three-year period. The Exiles' decision means that there will be no top-flight rugby at Richmond Ath-

Punch a serious prospect

By RICHARD EDMONDSON

IF David Elsworth ever buys anything out of your car boot you have made a mistake. That painting from the attic is probably a Vermeer or your Aunt Dolly's bracelet a little more than costume jewellery.

Elzy has liked a bargain ever since the days he ran a stall at Romsey market and it is a characteristic that has served him well in later life.

While others at racing's sales have splashed out the sort of criminal numbers that appear under a villain's mug shot. Elsworth has eschewed the flashy pedigrees and prices in search of a good, cheap horse. He's managed it with Indian Ridge and In The Groove, who both cost 20,000gns, and Seattle Rhyme, a \$51,000 purchase. Now he hopes the touch is still there with Persian Punch.

Today's Gold Cup favourite has already proved himself worth at least a zero more than his 14,000gns price, but if he wins the most prestigious race of the Royal meeting it will be conclusive proof that the Elsworth touch is still there. "Try to huy a Gold Cup winner for the sort of money I paid for him," the trainer says. "I'm quite chuffed about that, but he hasn't won yet mind you."

Elzy has been missing from these parts for the best part of a decade now as his 10 Royal Ascot winners are stuffed betweeo Heighlin's Ascot Handicap victory of 1980 and Line Engaged in the Norfolk Stakes 10 years later.

It seemed that Persian status quo 12 months ago, when he was also favourite for the Gold Cup, but he got upset by the neighbours and thrashed around in the stalls as others around him became agitated. The energy he had left allowed him to finish tailed-off 12th of 13.

This year Persian Punch only Clerkenwell, who is step- yesterday.

ping up in distance today, in the 7-strong field, the largest for a Gold Cup this century.

"Persian Punch is in good form and looks like be could win it on what he's achieved this year," Elsworth says. "He's run over the distance, in the Prix du Cadran [French Gold Cup], and he was beaten a oeck and three quarters of a length, after making all the running. So he certainly stays the distance.

"And if you consult the form book it will tell you that he was second to Oscar Schindler in the Irish Leger - and that one went on to be fourth in the Arc.

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Persian Punch (Royal Ascot 3.45) NB: Zomaradah (Royal Ascot 2.30)

"He has a relentless, extravagant stride, which is deceiving because he's not short of speed. So though he's a massive horse he's not a plodder." This Elsworth price will not be a bargain today but PERSIAN PUNCH (nap 3.45) should win.

In the opening event, Bahr, the Oaks runner-up, is another favourite that may succeed, but Epsom horses often run badly here and more rewarding odds will be available about Zomaradah (next best 2.30).

Luca Cumani's filly, the Ital-

ian Oaks winner is one of just two three-year-olds in training owned by Sbeikh Mohammed Obaid Al Maktoum. The other is High-Rise, the Derby winner, which just shows where the celestial digit was pointing at the Punch was about to restore the outset of this Flat season. The good Sheikh is currently the most popular figure in the game among the Fourth Estate, which some have connected to the fact that he left a few bottles of Ruinart in the press room on the meeting's first day.

If the poor artisans of the media want to cootinue the

4.20 Kahai (nb)



Treble lifts Stoute's Knight-life

BY GREG WOOD at Ascot

QUITE a lot has happened to Walter Swinburn since his last Royal Ascot in 1995. After a fall at Sha Tin in early 1996, he did oot so much flirt with death as cancel the wedding when the invitations were already in the post. Twelve months ago, he was in the middle of a "sabbatical" to overcome weight problems which many assumed to be permanent. Yet Swinhurn was born with

a racing brain and blessed with natural luck in running, and both have survived the challenges of recent years. In the has worked up a sweat after the habit today they should support Coronation Stakes here yes of either stalls have opened and has es- Speedy James (3.05), whose terday, he needed a touch of tablished himself as the best form was made to look most good fortune to find a run for after the Nell Gwyn Stakes, stayer around. His trainer fears shiny by Bint Allayl's victory Exclusive as they turned into and theo ran really well in the the straight tight against the 1,000 Guineas, which came

appeared, however, oo further luck was required, as Swinburn delivered a typically composed challenge to beat Zalaiyka, the 5-4 favourite, hy a leogth and a half.

This was Sir Michael Stoute's first winner since we all had to start calling him "Sir" last weekend, so this latest Group One success seemed only fitting given his newly elevated status. It was also his third Coronation Stakes, following the victories of Sonic Lady and Milligram in the 1980s, and after a somewhat slow start this year, Exclusive

"She came back a bit flat

rail. Once the running room had plenty quick enough for her," mense determination through-Stoute said. "I felt after the Guineas mile that she would stay a mile and a quarter and she has plenty of big entries over both those distances, including the Eclipse."

Walter Swinburn steering Exclusive to victory in yesterday's Coronation Stakes leaving Frankie Dettori and La Nuit Rose, eventually fifth, trailing

The double edged compliment which attached itself to Swinburn loog ago was that he was the best big-race jockey in the business, and his ride on Exclusive yesterday was fault-"In the final furlong I knew

I had the race won, whereas Stoute kept for himself. when I rode her before in the Guineas, she felt like a big, raw, weak filly," he said. "Royal and every race is like a Group

This may explain why Swin-

out the afternoon, eventually completing a treble for Stoute with wins on Maridpour (Queen's Vase) and Greek Palace (Bessborough Handicap).

Maridpour was a particularly convenient winner for the trainer given that Zalaiyka, the French-trained runner-up to Exclusive, was attempting to give the Aga Khan his first Royal Ascot winner for 12 years. Thanks to Maridpour, this was a privilege which

Stoute's record at the Royal meeting now includes 33 winners. That of James Eustace de no firther than one but yesterday and the trainer was

burn continued to ride with im- the stands side from the open- year racegoers.

ing strides, beat off every challenge, although that of Fly To The Stars, the 6-1 favourite who was giving him two stone, proved particularly stern, for which the top weight deserves

"It's wonderful for a small yard like ours with just 23 horses," Eustace said. "I thought he is mapped out every bit as might be the sort of horse for the Hunt Cup when he was running so well on the all-weather back in February, but 10 days ago I did not even think he would get into the race, it needed about 15 horses above him in the weights to come out."

Victory for Fly To The Stars mld have completed an ex-Refuse To Lose, who led on surely popular with the once-a-

There were winning favourites in the first two races, however, as Bint Allayi took the Queen Mary for Mick Channon - "this is just like football really, you have to be able to do it on the day" - and Diktat the Jer-

sey Stakes for David Loder. Diktat's path to better things clearly as the straight seven furlongs he travelled to win the Jersey. The Sussex Stakes at Goodwood and the Prix Jacques le Marois at Deauville are the options which David Loder has in mind, with the latter a narrow favourite.

Loder will be based in France full-time from next year sion, the highlight of the year, it arrived in the Royal Hunt Cup cellent day for punters, al- when he takes charge of the though on account of his name Godolphin operations two-yearduly overwhelmed with delight. alone, Refuse To Lose was olds. It may be that he will want to give the locals an early idea

CP2 co

ROYAL ASCOT

3.05 Sheer Viking 3.45 WINDSOR CASTLE (nep) 4.55 Posta Vecchia 5.30 Carry The Flag GOING: Good to Soft. STALLS: Straight course - stands elde; round course - inside. GOING: Good to Soft. STALLS: Straight counter - stands alde; round course - inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers probably best on straight course.

If Right-hand course with testing uprill finish. There is a straight mile.

If Resecourse is near junction of A329 and A330. Access from M3 (Junc 3) and M4 (Junc 6). Helicopter-lending facility at course. Realway station (service from London, Waterioo) adjoins the course. ADMISSION: Royal Enclosure by prior application only: Grandstand & Paddock & Silver Ring advance booking only: Heath \$2 CAR PARK: \$10.

If LEADING TRAINERS: P Cole 8 winners from \$0 runners gives it success ratio of \$3%; S bin Surroor \$7 from 38 (23.7%); J Dustiop 7 from 47 (14.8%); H Cecil 8 from 45 (13.7%; B LEADING JOCKEYS: L Destort 11 who from 66 ridds gives a success ratio of \$1.7%;

LEADING JOCKEYS: Libettori 11 wins from 66 rides gives a success ratio of 16.7%; Ti Quirm 10 from 59 (16.9%); Mi Hills 8 from 61 (13.1%); K Fallon 6 from 39 (15.4%). FAYOURTES: 30 vins in 126 mccs (238%).
BLINKERED FIRST TWIE: Jauzim (visored) (530).
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNER: Pips Magic (305) has been sent 406 miles. 2.30 RIBBLESDALE STAKES (GROUP 2) (CLASS

A) BBC1 £120,000 3YO fillles 1m 4f Pen Value £71,160

FOR M GUIDE

Zomaradath: Odda-on winner of Brighton maiden before talong nine-runner Italian Celes (111, soft) by 374 lengths. Will stay frief, but this is another big step up in class end she also has to carry 8 6th penalty for her Group 1 win in Rome.

Behn: Beat Midnight Line a neck in Musiciora States; (105), good to soft) at York. Second favourite, very game second, besten 1/4 length, to Shathoush in the Celes at Epsom (1144, good) two weeks ago, which gives her first-rate form claims in this. Debayer: West ored. Odds-on winner of maiden at Naven (soft) on her debut. Beatan 274 lengths by sment oof Fisk Material in a Issed rate (good to firm) at the Curragh in days later. Looks bound to improve again, particularly for the step up to 144. Due Soutife Third in Issed races at Goodwood first 244 or start and at Chester in May, in latter (111 Chesthire Oals, good to firm) beatan ten lengths by the winner-leigh And Low and four lengths by runner-up Rambing Rose Plenty to first, but should stay, alber, Runner-up in Fillies Mile here in 1897. Has not improved yet this term, melking third in the Netl Gwyn and eight in the 1000 Guiness before her win at 15/8 on by 37 lengths from Genoa in a Newbury listed race. Seas to leat year's runsway winner restmak, not quite ac good as her at the same stage but the is her first by at 1146. Putunat: Won a maiden at Epson and 1162 letted race (outstaying Zeme in the soft, lest week) at Newbury. Ran on good to firm both starts in between, last of six (though not beaton far) in 1151 Lingthed Oals. This and second in the Lupe of Goodwood firm both starts in between and end and the should improve for a greater lest of startina.

Silica Key Services Won Newbury maiden on soft, but only fifth off a mark of 82 at York next time. Close severth of 13 at 50-1 in the 14sh 1000 Guiness a much better effort. Side Begonika: Second to french Derby second Poligiote, Took until latest start to get at the mark, winning maiden at the Curreyt (good) by a length on the first run at 1141. Earlier sec

VERDICT: One has to presume that BAHR has got over her geme effort at Epeom, and she cannot be opposed. Zomitredish has her pensity to overcome but should go wall, while Debuya is the one most likely to find marked improvement.

NORFOLK STAKES (GROUP 3) (CLASS A) RECT

1	3.05	£50,000 added 2YO 5f Penalty Value £29,775	į
ι		1 150,000 BOORS 210 St Penalty Value 123,775	
1	6	i Bugatti Reef (14) (D) (Mis J Magneriki Tebor) A P O'Brien (in) 6 12 M J Kingere, 5 1	ľ
2	3	CHOTO MATE (30) (D) (V C Matalon) R Hannon 8 2	K
3		EL TANGO (31) (D) (Mrs S Tucker) B Mechan 8 12	2
4	31	KAANTEN (22) (D) (Herndan Al Makksum) B Henbury 8 12	į
5	131	MONKSTÖN POBIT (5) (D) (D C Broomfield) D Arbustnot 5 12	ľ
8		PATRIOT (26) (D) (W Cirioro) 8 Smart 8 12	
7		FERUGINO BRY (44) (D) (J C Fretwell) B Mohlehon 8 12	
8		PIPS MAGIC (21) (0) (F Brady) J Golde 8 12 J F Egen 13	
9	5	RIVERDANCE (22) (Gallagher Equina) K McAultie & 12 K Fullon 3	3
1) 11	ROSSELLI (USA) (1s) (D) (T G Holdcroff) J Barry 8 12	Š
11	4	SAILING SHOES (19) (D) (Mrs C Parker) R Hermon 8 12	٩
12	. 13	SHEER VIKING (SE) (D) (BF) (R J Accus) B Hills 8 12	l
Z	1 112) SPEBly JAMES (23) (D) (EF) (Lucayan Stud) J Berry 8 12	Ц
и	13	SYDNEY SAFEHANDS (17) (D) (S R Leon) N Litimoden 8 12 Detton 12	á
1	117	INYA LAKE (13) (0) (8 Minty) M Chemion 8.7	ľ
1	541	TO COMPLET RUSA) (10) (10) (10) (10) (10) (10) (20) (20) (20) (10) (10) (10) (10) (10) (10) (10) (1	•
17		UNICAMP (27) (J B Coulistro Noguesia) E Utinop & 7	•
		- 17 declared -	

- 17 December - 18 December -

FORM GUIDE

Bugesti Reef: Bred on very similar lines to Dayla: 5/4 on when sixth in a masten at the Curagh (6), good to firm). Made amende at evens at Tipperary (5), good to soft). Choto Niste: Brief Truce colt. If (8), best Bodferi Truce 11/4 lengths in a four-hunner maid-en at Goodwood (5), good to firm). Lodes sent to improve again. El Tinggo: Risk Me golding. Has to improve hugely on his 21/4 length win in a 51 South-

Kammers: Multariid colt. Third at Windsor before impressing with a two-length win in an

Well mattern. Multarid coll. Third at Windsor before impressing with a two-length win in an ti-numer maiden at Newbury. Promising.
Monitotion Points Beat Pathot Windigh in a solt-ground maiden at Beth. Head behind Speedy James when that behind impressive Bin Allayl in Isted race at Sandown.
Pathot: Second in the good maiden won by Monkston Point at Bath. Odds-on winner at Warwick, but his ness there got in each other's way.
Perugino Bey: Won meaden at Pipon (\$t. heavy) then always outpeaced when fifth of sower to Queensland Star on good ground at Chestar. Has his work cut out here.
Pipo Milegia: Kept busy, and put up Improved efforts on last ground last two starts, emerging best late on at 20½ in a tight finish at Ayr (\$t. novice) last time.
RiverdemestCollege Chapol coit out a 1m44 winner. (Ar), 6/Nengths fifth of 11 to Kasmen in a maiden at Newbury, never dangerous. Will improve.
Rosselli: Half-Drother to two useful sprintians. Clear-cut winner of lour-numer novice at Newbury and put up 1/Nength from Principality at Beverley (good to solt).
Setting Shoess: By Lahla. Promise of debut effort confirmed with amouth win by 2/Nengths from Divisto in a seven-numer maiden (\$t. good) at Chester
Sheer Villatig: 56;000-guines son of Denetift. Won 5/Newmarker mattern in good style, but found title when third of lour over 6t to Covertry States winner Red Sea at York.
Speedy Jamess: Very impressive wins at Newcaster and Newmarker marked time down as a top 2-y-o sprint prospect. Disappointment with he defeat by Birt Allayl at Sendown may have been excessive as he was giving her Villa. Has sound prospects here.
Sydney Satisfashards: Won maiden on the AW at Woherhampton. Third of rine in a novice event at Winsor leaves him with plenty to find.

went at Winsor leaves him with plenty to find. event, at version teaces ten with plenty of speed in a lower grade, wirking at Doncaster (seller), Hamilton (heavy) and Catterick (novice race on good, putting up best effort). Top Order: Daylur Rity, 11/8 knownite, made at the numming and was value for more than her 8-length wirking imagin in a modest medien at Werwick (51, good to soft). Unicamp: Well-bred Royal Academy filly, 4/1, easy 2/h langth winner of seven-numer mexican at Nottinghem (61, good to firm), shaping as it would be just as good at 51.

VERDICT: Sheer Visiting showed plenty of promise on his debut, and the form of his third (which looked disappointing at the time) at York was boosted on Tuesday by Red Saa, However, I one is looking for form boosters from events earlier at the meeting, one cannot do better than the win of Birn Allayl yesterday, which strengthers, the already considerable confidence behind SPEEDY JAMIES

3.45 GOLD CUP (GROUP 1) (CLASS A) BBC1 £118.500

- 17 declared - BETTING: 4-1 Persian Punch, 7-1 Straigness, Windoor Casile, 8-1 Three Cheers, 9-1 Kayl Tura, 10-7 Cenon Can, 12-1 Celeric, French Bellerige, Senessan, 14-1 Clarksmeell, 20-1 others 1987: Celeric 5 9 2 Per Eddery 11-2 (II Morkey) drawn (2) 13 ran

Canon Can: Won 2m6! Queen Alexandra Staires 12 months ago and further improvement to bear Persain Punch (gave 3b) 11/4 lengths in the Doncaster Cup. Ninth of 11 in the Henry I at Sandown, but needed that run and is expected to do a to better here. Gelerific Did actremely well for Dayof Morisy, the highpoint being his 1/4 length win over Classic Clicite in this race last year (Samratin, Double Trigger and Persain Punch well held). Below form, but with grossly insufficient test of stamma, both runs this season. Clarkennest: 1998 Ebor winner over fine!. Appeared not to stay on two runs at stround 2m that year, but was almed at the Melbourne Cup at one stage in an interrupted 1997 campaign. Won first race at the Melbourne Cup at one stage in an interrupted 1997 campaign. Won first race at Chaster this month. Several question merics. Double Trigger: 1995 Gold Cup winner and 1996 numers, p. and garrely won Goodwood Cup last year. Lack-lustre effort in this cace last year, however, is becoming more typical of his performances and he has been well beaten this season.

Gordt: 1996 Queen's Vese witner, but surprisingly has not raced over as far as 2m ance. Ran creditably in Duties (first) and at Leopardisoner (behind French Ballerina) this year. Pain would be a worry, and also doubts about necessary stamms and class.

Fin Suppositic Third in the Champion Hurdle Smart from hom first? to limit in Ireland in 1996, reproduced when fourth in the Nation Perior (first), sort) at Newbury in April, Below form since, though, and a doubtful stayer. FORM GUIDE

form since, though, and a doubtful stayer.

form since, though, and a doubtful stayer. Mongol Warrior: Has done most of the racing abroad. Plenty to prove. Mongol Warrior: Has done most of the racing abroad. Plenty to prove. Persian Purnot: Reportedly banged his head in the stalls when disappointing layourite last year. In excellent form this season, wirning Sagaro Stakes at Newmarket and Henry II Stakes for head from semanan) at Sandown. Acts on soft. Worthly tavourite. Sammann: Seemed not to stay when fifth last year. In good from this term, twice placed behind Persian Punch, but was receiving weight in both those races and there is no reason why he should furn the tables. Acts on good to soft, should furn the tables. Acts on good to soft. Stakes a fund of poods and the severely restricted his appearances. Returned to land a gamble in good style of a handicap mark of 88 in the Chester Cup in May, Acts on good to soft, should stay but something to find on form. Stretarez: Trained in Prance last year, wrining Group 2 over tim? (if by short head from Grey Shot. Bought es a jumps prospect, which explains his 25-1 starting price when he

won 13f Ormande Stakes at Chester by neck from Paio Sky. Acts on soft. Keyl Tiara: Has had only four races, impressive favourie in a limit conditions stakes at Haydock in May. Besten about 2 lengths when third to Persian Punich at Sandown (2m.

Haydock in May Beaten about 2 lengths when that to Persian Punch at Sandown (2m. good). Should improve again but may well be outstayed.

Maytaner Won valuable handings at Goodwood and Group 3 at Epsom, both over trust furned over further) of sound surface. Well beaten in Dubas in March. Usually status slowly, it stall. This timp should at least give him a better chance to catch up.

Three Cheers: Has some character (wears headgest) and plenty of stamins, winner of Nermarket issed race and French Group 3 at around first. Got going late when about 3½ lengths fourth to Persian Punch at Sandown. Chances.

Windoor Castlet: Winner of the 2m Queen's Vase at this meeting last year from Three Cheers and Book At Bedoms. Reliable since, in frame this year in the Segard at Normarket and a French Group 2. Another who should appreciate the extreme distance. French Batteria, Won the Supreme Novices' at the Chaltenham Festival. Smart form of Rein it ledned, but untries beyond first the distance of the 1½ like lock with on over Good.

on Reit in lieland, but untried beyond finist the distance of her 11/4 length win over Gord at Leopardistown last month. Acts on soft ground. Book At Beditime: Met trouble in running in 1997 Queen's Vase. Went on to win the Park Hill over Donicaster's Infot and to make fourth in the St Leger time days later. Latest start was a respectable effort. Will relish a thorough test of stamine.

VERDICT: Perfect Punch looks sure to go close. He is the most likely winner, but WENDICE: Perfect Putter loos sure as go case. He is the rick early writer, our that is tally reflected in his odds and there are planty who make some appeal at long prices. Celeric and Canon Can are proven stayers who should improve on their afforts earlier that form. The first three in fast year's Queen's Vase will all reliablithe extra distance with BOOK AT BEDTTIME attractively overpriced in her bid to turn the tables on Windoor Castle and Three Cheors.

4.20 CORK AND ORRERY STAKES BBC2 (GROUP 2) (CLASS A) £100,000 added 6f Penalty Value £59,250

— 18 declared —
BETTHKC: 7-2 Kahal, 9-2 Binadha, Tamerisk, 0-1 Arkadian Hero, 7-1 Tombe, 10-1 Dyhira Diemond, 16-1 Biy Best Valentine, 20-1 Androye, Compton Pisca, Cretan Gift, 25-1 Zeidlag, 33-1 others 1997: Royal Applace

FORM GUIDE

Compton Place: Shock winner of the Group 1 July Cup (6t, good) at Newmarket jest year. Has not had same conditions again and has not repeated the form, so hard to tainey with his penalty if the ground is on the soft side.

Elimation: Three-length win over Monassasto over course and distance in the Gadem isst, September, Potowed good second to Bolin Joenne at York in May with modest third (patchy ground was the excuse) at Sandown. Unraced so far on a soft surface.

Kathat Touched off in the 1997 Jarsey and Impressive winner of the Challenge Stakes, both over 12 Titled over this in the Loddone on the reasonalization and is much more in. both over 71. Tried over 1m in the Lockinge on his reappearance and is much more in-teresting on his first try at this trip today. Probably acts on good to soft. Andreyen-Returned to form with easy win in conditions stakes (61 heavy) at Kempton of April, Not much charact on his other form, particularly last of ten to Bollin Joanne at

Tryin, this moral distance in the ones note, parabolarly set of an ab board Johnson at York (b) good) test time. Cretain (38th Hes continued his progress with career-best efforts in Group 3 (fourth to Bollin Joanne et York) and fisted races this year. Hasn't won on turif this year however, and, though conditions will set thin, he has place prospects at best. Dyhilm Diamond: Trainer won 1997 King's Stand hers. Beat Cretain gift in Group 3 in Germany in New and unsuited by drop to 5th rest time. Acts on good to soft. Noneseastic: Pourth in this race test year. Very consistent, but has something to find on second to Sinadin lest September and sooth to Bollin Joanne at York littless centre.

Monamedia: Fourth in this race last year. Very consistent, but has something to find on second to Smadin last September and south to Solin Josine at York titlest start. My Best Valendine: Much improved in 1997, regularly figuring at the death in good hand-loops and three wine including a 6f listed race. Just as good this year judged on second in Pelace House Stakes Sit, good to soli) at Newmarket. Place changes on second in Pelace thouse Stakes Sit, good to soli) at Newmarket. Place changes are the provided in this in 1997 Kingh Stand. Place thances. Rambling Bear: Behind in this in 1996 and seventh in 1997 Kingh Stand. Place thances are monthly in conditions stakes at Goodwood in May. Not good enough. Remains Third last autumn in the Heydook Park Sorth and the Prite de Is Fortit at Langehamp, both Group 7 on good to soft. Respectable efforts this term, fourth to Tamerisk at Lingfield (8f, good) lest time. May well have loted conditions here. Princelly Heir: Won Provents Stakes (8f, good to Tim) at Laopardstown last August. Hes not quite reproduced that form over 1m this term in the Craven at Newmarket and the German 2,000 Guiness Acts on acht. Drop in this will suit, but has to Improve. Avhadian Herro: Strapping coll who looks a high-class sprinter in the making. Shaped well in the 2000 Guiness and then tried to give Tamerisk (10th when beaten 2½ langths in Islaed race at Lingfield. However, doubtful numer with rain.
Nameh Star: Made at Inngled. However, doubtful numer with rain.
Nameh Star: Mede at in four-uniter conditions stakes at Yarmouth (6f, good to soli) in June. Well hald in listed caces provious two starts, so probably not good enough.
Termarisk Cassy as 2-y-o, who in the Start so probably not good enough:
Second place to Xear in the Devinust, both over 7f. Swiched to sprinking final led 5f in the Guineas) and when winning Lingfield Isled race from Artestian Hero. Unproven on soft surface, otherwise has good chance.
Beyledif. Won Newbury maden before fourth in the Flying Chiders at Doncaster last yea

VERDICT: The three-year-olds famarias and Arcadian Hero both make appeal at the weights, while Elmadiat has solid prospects if his lettest start is longwer. There are doubts about their effectiveness on a soft surface however, and to a lesser extent over that of the otherwise very interesting prospect Karlad. There is no cause for concern on that score with TOMBA who has a decent chance on form anyway.

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4.55 CHESHAM STAKES (Listed) (CLASS A) £37,000 added 2YO 7f Penalty Value £23,875

1 HOUSEMASTER (14) (Highders Record Lick M Bell 8 0. M Fenton 1 Westmanster (14) (Highders Record Lick M Bell 8 0. M Fenton 1 1 Westmanster CITY (USA) (41) (A J Richards) C Britain 8 0. J Reid 10 J Reid 10

FORM GUICE

FORM GUIDE

Housemester: 72000-guinea son of Rudimentery. Very weak in betting, won six-runner meeden at Yarmouth (good to firm) by two lengths from Cabalters. Will stay 77.

Westminster City: Unusual for sire (Alleged) and trainer to have a tirst-time-out 2-y-o winner over 54, as this coll was on good to firm at Lingfield. Form not great.

Auction House: By Exhourne out of unraced dam. Little to go on except the betting. Compton Admirals Suave Dencer out of a useful mere. 217 when numbing Meetering to a neck in maiden at Goodwood (61 good to firm). Will stay 77.

Marisan: 57/0000-dollar yearing buy by Affirmed. Stable have good record in the 2-y-o events at this meeting, and should not be demissed on grounds of inexperience. Rhapsodist Week in betting, green when 2// lengths second to Ped Delivium in 8/ Goodwood maiden (good to firm). Six to improve for that promising debut.

Spring Pursud? Rudimentary cott, a 55000-guines buy. 5/1, beat Al Fehds two lengths in at maiden (good at Warnick, Should stay the oxes turiors.

Dealthas, Scopey desighter of Dealting Blade, 25/ but 11// lengths third of seven to Golden Six in in 5 conditions race at Newbury (good to firm). If will suit much better.

Historiah: Nashwan filly from a good family. 21/, beaten about 2 (angles behind Agreeable) in a good Newmarket maiden (fill firm). Cen leave that form behind her.

Posts Vecchilic Rainhow Quest who oce 85000 quineas, closely related to a former read well on paper. The two who can come out beas are RHAPSODIST and Dealths.

5.30 KING GEORGE V STAKES (HANDICAP) (CLASS B) £46,000 added 3YO 1m 4f Penaity Value £29,700

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Circus: About five lengths third of six to Xase in the Craven (tim, sort). Much less impressive in Thresher Classic Trial and Italian Derby, though is quite stought pred.

Opers King: Second devouries, beet the useful Succes And Glory to mack in a four-timer conditions states (111/4/ good) at Ungfield Will improve agen.

Histein: Hise not improved on the form of his second to fire Proposin or debut (sort), but was wirning taxouries in Yarmouth meiden. Steps up from tim, possibly too far.

Histein: Hise not improved on the form of his second to fire Proposin or debut (sort), but was wirning taxouries in Yarmouth meiden. Steps up from tim, possibly too far.

Histein: His not improved on the form of his seconds to far Proposin or debut (sort), but was wirning taxouries in Yarmouth meiden. Steps up from tim, possibly too far.

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- -- Brandy - January

VERDICT: One gives up counting the number of numbers here who are trying the dis-tance for the first time. Planty have indicated that they should improve a good deal for it. Of those, NAUTICAL STAR is at a big price in the morning just gets the vote.

·Redknapp in hunt for red hot Chilean

TWO PREMIERSHIP clubs moved for overseas players yesterday, as West Ham were linked with Chile's World Cup defender Javier Margas and Aston Villa pursued the teenage Italian midfielder, Fabio Ferraresi, on a free transfer.

The Hammers manager, Harry Redknapp, has agreed a £1.2m fee for Margas - who was part of the Chile side that drew 1-1 with Austria in St Etienne yesterday - with the 29-yearold's club, Universidad Catolica.

Ferraresi is wanted by a number of leading clubs in Italy but the 19-year-old is keen to play in England after helping Cesena to win promotion from Serie C last season. The Villa manager, John Gregory, said: We are confident that the lad will be joining us."

First Division Sunderland were also recruiting yesterday. snapping up the Wrexham striker, Neil Wainwright, for £500,000. Leicester City have decided

Premier League or Football Association after Everton were alleged to have made an approach to the Filbert Street club's manager, Martin O'Neill.

A spokesman for the Premiership club said: "We are not reporting Everton for any illegal approach to Martin O'Neill and we're just looking forward to next season."

One manager on the move yesterday was Neil Warnock who took over at First Division Bury. Warnock, who arrives at Gigg Lane along with his Oldham assistant, Ron Reid, has also been at the helm of Scarborough, Huddersfield, Notts County and Plymouth. The Northern Ireland Secre-

tary, Mo Mowlam, is backing plans by a consortium to bring Wimbledon to Belfast. A group of Ulster businessmen have proposed building a stadium in the Province's capital, which could become the Dons' new home. Mowlam feels Premiership foot-

not to complain to either the Northern Ireland and might even aid the peace process.

The Dons, who play at Crystal Palace's ground, Selhurst Park, have been linked with a switch to Dublin for the past two years and any move to Belfast would face stern opposition from both the Football Association of Ireland and the world governing body, Fifa.

Milan and Borussia Dortmund could gain a backdoor entry into the Uefa Cup next season despite failing to qualify. A plan put forward at a meeting of European football's governing body in Paris on Tuesday would give wild card entries to European champions of the past five years who have not won places in any of the three European chib competitions.

The five-year limit would mean that no more than four additional teams would be added to the Uefa Cup each season as the reigning European champions automatically enter the Champions' League. A final de-



Sergei Fedorov, the Detroit Red Wings forward, lifts the Stanley Cup for the NHL ball would bring huge benefits to . cision will be taken next month. | Championship after Tuesday's 4-1 victory over the Washington Capitals Reuters

Red Wings take a bow for Bowman

ICE HOCKEY

ANDREW MARSHALL in Washington

THE DETROIT Red Wings swept to a second consecutive victory in the Stanley Cup on Tuesday, beating the hapless Washington Capitals 4-1 in the fourth game of the series.

Their victory was well earned, with two goels from Doug Brown and one each from Martin Lapointe and Larry Murphy. The Red Wings have built up an impressive tally over the past few years, with some enthusiasts speaking of them as the sport's new ruling dynasty.

They are the first team to win the Cup twice in succession since the Pittsburgh Penguins in the 1991-92 season. They have qualified for the Cup final in three of the past four years, and have the most play-off victories in the 1990s. The key to their success is their coach, Scotty Bowman, who has equalled the record for most cups as a coach.

However, in many ways, the real surprise of the season was that the Capitals made it to the finals at all. They have a dis-

never made it to the top of the game before in their 24 years. Brian Bellows scored the Capitals' lone goal. "T've got a bit of an empty feeling right now," the goaltender Olaf Kolzig said. "In a few weeks it will pass and we'll realise what a great season we've had."

Last year's Red Wings' victory was marred by a car accident shortly afterwards in which the defenceman Vladimir Konstantinov suffered a brain injury, and he will never play again. The Red Wings marked their victory yesterday by bringing Konstantinov out on to the ice to carry the trophy.

The Stanley Cup is the world's largest sporting trophy, with each winning team's name engraved on a silver ring that is attached to the cup itself. Like the Epsom Derby, and the city of Stanley in the Falkland Islands, it is named after the Lancashire family who are also the bereditary Earls of Derby. Lord Stanley of Preston was the Governor-General of Canada when, in 1892, he was persuaded by his ice hockey-mad sons to provide a trophy, which was initially just

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ROYAL ASCOT 2.30: Luca Cumani frequently brings his best horses along very steadily - Derby winner High-Rise is an example - and he has high regard for Zomar-

adah. This filly won the Italian Oaks last month after her previous race had been a lowly maiden event at Brighton. A 61b penalty for the Milan victory. however, makes it hard to fancy her beating the Epsom Oaks runner-up, BAHR. The letter's form seems much superior.

3.05: Speedy James will be a warm order after finishing second at Sandown last time to yesterday's impressive Queen Mary Stakes winner Bint Allayl. Jack Berry's colt faded quite tamely in that race, however and short odds would be unattractive. Better value may be found with SHEER VIKING. Barry Hills's runner powered home at Newmarket in May before apparently disappointing when third, besten less than two lengths, to Red Sea at York last time. But Red Sea's subsequent victory in the Coventry that effort in a far different light. Kahal. The Godolphin runner

3.45: Yesterday's rain means WINDSOR CASTLE, who this prize.

HYPERION'S

looks an excellent bet. This course winner likes a bit of cut in the ground and Paul Cole is confident this four-year-old, who won the two-mile Queen's Vase at this meeting a year ago, has the stamina for this extra half-mile. He can prove classier than the favourite, Persian Punch, John Dunlop has kept his faith in Samraan, but this one's chance would be greater on fast ground.

4.20: Big things have been expected of Elnadim this season but the Dunlop sprinter has failed to click so far. Tamarisk, in contrast, showed he is likely to join the top rank of speedsters this season with a decisive win at Lingfield three weeks ago. Tim Sprake will probably have this keen sort prominent from the off. Frankle Dettori, drawn nearby, could be ready to drops back from contesting the one-mile Lockinge Stakes last the ground has come right for time but has the speed to take

TV TIPS

2.10 Creon 2.45 No Warning 3.20 Caution 3.55 Julies Jewel 4.30 Nosey Native 5.05 Ardleigh Charmer 5.40 Three For A Pound

GOINE: Soft (Heavy in piaces).
STALLS: Straight course - stands side; Round course - inside,
DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers may be best for 5f & 8f.
Right-hand course, A sharp track with tight bends.
Course is E of city on 86265, ADMISSION: Club C41; Tettersals 59 (OAPs 58; Sher Ring 54; Course 52, CAR PARK: Brisis St. (UNV 125); Siver rang 24; COURS 12. CAR PARKE, Family enclosure CD per cer inc. up to four edutos; rest free. ILEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston 22-125 (19%), J Barry 13-116 (112%), J Gosden 11-53 (20.8%), T Easterby 11-93 (11.8%), ILEADING JOCKEYS: J Weever 24-106 (22.2%), J Carroll 16-147 (10.9%), L Jharhood; 9-124 (6.7%); C Hind 8-48 (6.7%), FAVOURITES: 153-454 (33.7%), BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Needwood Spirit (5.05).

1	2.10 MASHAM MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS E) 23,750 3YO 1m 2
1	BARON LAZLO R Wheeler 9 0
3	0 BREVITY (60) J Goeden 8 0 C Hind 6 33 CREON (17) L Cumen 9 0 O Urbins 2
5	O DAN HOI (77) B McMett 90
7	SE30-0 SADOLERS' PIOE (17) B Hits 8 0
В	POKUSSION M Bettari B 8 D Merragh (7) 1

RIPON

HYPERION

-a cersayeo -BETTB16: 1-2 Creon, 9-2 Berrity, 7-1 Saddiess' Floe, 12-1 General Monta, 20-1 Found At Sea, 33-1 others FORM VERDICT CRECKI, who was a long way in front of both General Month, and Dan He when a creditable third of 25 at Windsor last time, has to be the choice even though he is unproved on

now reads really well and there is just a chance that this soft ground a what he needs. Saddler's flow did not stape too bedly on his respeciarance but is unlevly to be good enough if the selection runs to form, but Brisvity could be

SOUTHWELL

HYPERION

better than he showed in the Wood Ditton.

2.45 RICHMOND STAKES (CLASS C) £7,250 added 2YO 6f

RETTING: 1-4 No Warning, 3-1 Bon Are

FORM VERDICT

FORM VEHICLE

NO WARNING delighted George Duffleid with the way he
quickened up on easy ground at Chepstow to maintain his
impressive unbeaten record and that affort tooks even better after the second's nursiway win this week. Bon Amil is
capable in the night grade but it would be a surprise if he
were good enough to trouble the Mark Prescott youngster,
who was a late fool and open to more improvement.

3.20 MIDDLEHAM HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 5f

FORM VERDICT

LASO OI VARANO finds it hard to put his head in front but showed himself in good fettle when besting all har the inform Poly Golightly at York last week and is well up to whining an ordinary event like this. Caustion, well treated with Swan At Whalley on last year's Chester form, was slightly disappointing on ordinary ground last true and a bigger street may emerge in the shape of Antonia's Choice, who has needed her runs so far this season and is potentially well treated.

3.55 R L DAVISON & TORCH HANDICAP (CLASS C) £8,000 added 3YO 1m

2.55 BALL CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) 53,000 edded 1m 3f

AGL CANADIAN PIZZE FR D	M) P Harris 8 7A Culthane 2
5-2063 SWEET REWARD (S) JS	myth-Osbourne 63R Perham 1
234-20 PASS THE REST (19) J N	loseda 9 0
242002 JULIES JEWEL (10) M.C.	repmen 6 13 Weever 5
	nbury 512 A Chart 4
	Z) M Tomplane 5 12 D Blogs 7
) Mrs J Remeden &B Portune &
602-06 HIT THE SPOT (10) WH	ggas 6 1 G Duffield 5

-8 declared -BETTING: 7-2 Judies Jamet, 4-1 Pans The Rest, 9-2 Empire Gold, 13-2 Sweet Reneral, 7-1 Caradian Puzziar, Free Option, 10-1 others

FORM VERDICT

Several numers are open to considerable improvement, includ-ing the Ramedene Emplies Gold, who is expected to relich this trip after finding of too sharp last time. Preference is for PASS THE REST, who will be auted by this surface and also runs as though the step up in trip will help. Jutiles Jewel. back in form and a capable performer on soft going, and Worth The Effort must both go well in an intriguing con-

4.30 BEAUMONTS LADIES' DERBY HANDI-CAP (CLASS E) £4,000 1m 4f 60yds

Minkroure: 9st 30). True handicap weighte: Mr Morieny Bet 13th, Juli Fille Bat. BETTING: 4-1 Nir Morienty, Summerbill Special, 5-1 Nowy Native, 8-1 Billy Normite, Saint Albert, 8-1 Kings City, Gilling Dencer, 14-1 others FORM VERDICT NOSEY NATIVE to not one to rely on but possibly meded the race when showing some signs of a revival at Haydock last time and is well weighted with Summerhill Special on

not take and to were weighted with summerfull Special or numing in this less year. Air Morterty was a revolution of Now-merical and would be dengerous to rule out, while progressive 3-y-o Saint Albert is another with claims in a difficult heat.

-7 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Floating Charge, 3-1 Three For A Pound, Poles Champ, 4-1 Tojan Risk, 8-1 Greensway Bay, 33-1 others

FORM VERDICT A tight contest with several in with a squeak. Conditions are right for Three For A Pound, Trojun Risk and Polar Champ. The tast-named has made the running on his last and may be able to dominate but the una FLOATING CHARGE gets the nod. Being by Sharpo, he should also handle the soft ground and the step up in trip

5.05 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (CLASS D) E5,000 added 3YO 1m 4f 60yds

45-440 STONE BECK (17) J. Jefferson 9 1 _______ Frontine 3
62151 ARDLEIGH CHARMER (6) C Dwyer 8 13 (5eq. _____ D Memogh (7) 8
00-401 SEMI CIRCLE (15) (0) T Easterby 8 2 ______ Charnock 2 8

BETTING: 5-4 Alfaude, 8-1 Cinder Hills, Artileigh Chemes, 7-1 Chlo-lo 8-1 Semi Circle, 12-1 Needwood Spirit, 14-1 Stone Beck

FORM VERDICT

ALTITUDE, who is officially well ahead of the Handicapper

and oces well on the soft, is the choice. This is no formall-

ty for him, however, with a number of in-form rivals, such as Cinder Hills, Arcileigh Charmer, Chio Jo and Semi Cir-

5.40 BEDALE CLASSIFIED STAKES (CLASS E) £3,750 added 1m 2f

0-000 THREE FOR A POUND (15) (BF) J Glover 4 8 13.... For

10-YEAR-TALE ON THE GOLD CUP Fate of the favourises: 1 1 4 2 1 4 2 2 2 1 12 Winner's place in betting: 1 1 0 0 1 8 0 2 2 2 7-2 8-11 14-1 25-1 7-4 13-2 20-1 9-4 3-1 11-2 5 B 4 B B 7 6 4 4 B Profit or loss to £1 stake: Favourites -£102 Second Favourites +£3.75 Percentage of winners placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in test rece: 90% Shortest-priced winner: Sadeem (1989) 8-11 Longest-priced winner; Indian Queen (1981) 25-1 Top trainer: Lord Huntingdon - Indian Queen (1991), Drum Taps (1992 & 1983) Top jockeye: M Hits - Ashai (1990), Arcadien Heights (1994) L Dettori - Drum Tape (1992 & 1993)

FIRST SHOW

	SCO	t 2.	30		
Home	C	H	L		<u> </u>
Zorusaduh			8-1		
Balv	11-8	ENGTS!	evens	17-10	11-8
Dabaye	8-1	7-1	6-1	13-2	8-1
Due South	25-1	25-1	33-1	25-1	<u>2-1</u>
Jibo	4-1	5-1	9-2	92	8-1
Pulural	14-1	15-1	22-1	20-1	14-1
Rembiles Ress	8-1	B-1	6-1	25	6-1
Sites Key Servin	351	33-1	25-1	33-1	<u> 33-1</u>
Star Bergoria	20-1	25-1	25-1	20-1	2-1
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2.20 Lobuche 2.55 Errant 3.30 Trojan Hill

4.55: (2m 45vds Queen's Vase)

1. MARIOPOUR _____W R Swinburn 8-1

2. Laurentide W Ryan 20-1

3. Capri 11-8 tav Also rant 5-1 Stron (4th), 6-1 Star Crystal. 8-1 Francis Bay, 9-1 Video (6th), 25-1 Churl-

ish Cherm (Sth).

8 ran. sht-hd, 11/4, 11/4, 11/4, 11/4, (bey coll by
Shemazer rut of Meridene, trained by Sr
Methael Stoute at Newmarket for Htl Aga
Khan), Tota: \$220; \$200, \$400, \$110. Dual
Forecast: \$230, \$55. \$103.48.

4.05 Cats Bottom 4.40 Leigh Crofter 5.15 Legend Of Love

STALLS: ST - CURRIC; Femorios - Frace.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Nors.

Fibresend surface; left-hand sharp, oval course.

Course is 5m W of Newark at Rolleston Junction. ADMISSION:
Cub St2; Tetherselle 55 (OAP Demond Cub St2; Tetherselle 57 (OAP Demond Cub St2; Tetherselle 57 (OAP), Nrs N Maceuley 32-307

(104%).

ILEADING JOCKEYS: J Guitan 35-504 (69%). A Cultume 25-947 (10.1%). T Williams 15-259 (6.2%). F Norton 15-139 (10.8%). FAVOURITIES: 551-1389 (3.47%).

BLINKERED FRIST TIME: Red Venue (3.30), Legend Of Love (5.15). True Love Ways (viscord, 3.30), Sweet Compliance (viscord, 3.30), Jack Ruby (viscord, 4.05).

2.20 BORA BORA CLASSIFIED STAKES (CLASS F) £3,000 added 6f

ROYAL ASCOT 2.30: (77 3yo Jersey Stakes)
1. DHOTAT DHORAND 3-1 fav
2. Bold Edge Dene O'Noll 14-1
1. Longer Krail Will instrument 8-1

Also ram: 4-1 Bold Ferzi, 6-1 Bianconi (5th), 12-1 Volontiers, 14-1 Ho Lang, 16-1 La-Faah,

ABO Tent. 4-1 Book Fetz, 6-1 Besticos (90%).
2-1 Volorifers, 14-1 Ho Leng, 16-1 La-Fesh,
Medin's Ring, 20-1 Dering Derek (4th), 33-1
Jelesh, Lone Piper, 40-1 Headhurser (8th),
88-1 Offic, 200-1 Lorenzo, One Ones.
16 ren. 2, 1/4, 31/4, 1/4, 3, (winner brown con
by Wenting out of Anols, trained by D Loder
at Newmarket for Sheith Mohermend). Tote:
2360; CIRO, CSRO, 2220, DP: 23050, CSP:
23869, 1/10: EXISAO, Non-Pumper, 1/ebt.

3. Corette J. Farene, M. J. Kinsen 12-7 Mar rec. Fri Farene, M. Jestic Deady, 14-1 Sha-Wolff (Sth), 25-1 Damais (4th), Karisal, 33-1 Amscing Dissen, 50-7 Black Rooket, Inca Tern, Little Movie Star (6th), Tamara, 66-1 Aubrista, Nory's Promiss, Smitterby, 100-1 Uptering Blaze.

Tream 2, 3, 114, 14, 194, twioner bey filly by Green Depart out of Society Lady, trained by M Charnon at Upper Lambourn for Shelth Ahmed Al Meldourn, Total \$240, \$130, \$130, \$350, DF: \$240, CSF: \$352, This. \$1440.

SAE: (In 3yo files Coronation Stakes)

1. EXCLUSIVE _____ W R Swinburn 5-1

2. Zalahta _____ G Moses 5-4 Fev

3. Winosa _____ J Murtagh 18-1

Also narc 6-1 La Nut Ross (Stift, 8-1 Deuring Lady, 16-1 Lawling Lady, 16-1-Lady in Westing (4th), 16-1 Soeur Ti (5th), 20-1 Crazae Mental, 20-1 Nanoushia.

or ran. 1%, 16, hd, nk, 16, twinner chestrut fil-by by Polar Falcon out of Exclusive Order, trained by Sir M Shoute at Neuments for Crew-ley Park Stud, Tone SZOP, SUB, SLED, SLED, DF: SUD, CSF: SEAZ, Yen: SZSSD NFL Grazile.

FORM VERDICT Both Ice Age and Elton Ledger reigh this surface and are entitled to run their races but the return to sprinting saw improve-ment from LOBUCHE less time and he can follow up.

3.30 MARTINIQUE AUCTION STAKES (F) £3,000 added 2YO filles 5f

FORM VERDICT

ERRANT is just about the form pick here on his last time win over course and distance, even though that was only a select, it was a good effort to beat a profile where. Though the alectorist moderate win record does lamper confidence, he does look the likeliest winner here, chead of Durgams First.

FORM VERDICT The Nurse and SWEET COMPLIANCE are the two to con-

est: £36197, Trio: £22540.

RACING RESULTS

18-1 Henry Island, 18-1 Present Arms, 20-1 Leading Spirit, 20-1 Monitor, 20-1 Star Precision, 25-1 High Intrigue, 25-1 Seasallo Bay, 23-1 Scattergun, 33-1 Supply And Demand, 53-1 Willie Computer.

20 ren. 1¹/₂ is is 1¹/₂ 1¹/₂ island sing cox by Royal Academy out of Gracien Seatrained by Sr Michael Stoutaeth Newmarket for Lord Weinstool), Total 216,50; 2320, 2140, 2380, 2320, 05-23060. CSF: 23630, Tiloast: 23637, Trice 22240.

Jackpot: not won, pool of £103,106.25 car-

HAMILTON

Also ranz 5-1 Hastale, 6-1 Premium Quest (6th), 7-1 Pipe Music (5th), 10-1 Charles Brick (4th).

7 ran: "v. 1"s, six-hd, "j., 3"s, (winner chest-nut thy by Sebrehill out of Reel Foyle, trained by B Hills at Lembourn for W J Gredley). Total:

6171: 2000 5570 Dust Forecast: 5350 Com-

2. High Premium _____ O Pears 7-2 3. Swan Island _____ Carroll (14-1

puter Straight Forecast: 56.36.

ned forward to Royal Ascot today. Piecepot: £1530. Quadpot: £3.20.

contrate in this run- of the-mill affair. The former showed definite promise on her debut at Catterick but did shape as it another furiong would suit, so Sweet Compliance, who has arguably the best form in any case though less scope for improvement, may be up to beating her. 4.05 TURTLE ISLAND HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,000 added 1m

FORM VERDICT BENTICO is interesting hort. He did well to run on into fourth from an outside draw last time, steping as if he would be at his peak on his ned run. Broughtons Turnell, droped in grade after some creditable recent efforts, is a potent threat.

4.40 SAN SALVADOR APPRENTICES SELL-ING HANDICAP (G) £2,500 added 7f

6 ran. nk, 6, 8, hd, 1%, fethiner chestnut gold-ing by Prot-Pride out of My First Paige, trained by C Dwyer at Newmarkst for Wessex House Racing], Totae 2305; 2406, 2120, DF: 23.70, CSF: 2539, Non Punner:

Also rent 7-2 Palacegate Jack (5th), 9-1 Milestre (6th), 11-1 Palium, 33-1 Turi Moor, 65-1 Another Episode (4th).

85-1 Another Episode (40%). § ran. hd, 114,214, hd. 57 L. (winner gray gald-ing by Pecong out of Duck Soup, trained by Don Enrico Incise at Middelsam for Mrs Christine Caviley). Tate: \$380; \$380, \$120.

£170. DF: £340. CSF: £1314. There was no

2. Mater Westsound 11-2
3. Jeffrey Anotherred 9-4 fe/
Also rate 6-1 Gold Edge (4th), 11-2 Biff-Em (5th), 10-1 River Ensign (6th), 12-1 Davis Rock, 14-1 Amon, 16-1 Pageboy, 100-1 December Lore.

NAISSANT _____

 Mister Westsound ____

FORM VERDICT

Despite his woiter weight DESERT INVADER makes plen-by of appeal in a week race. He has nothing to lear from Leigh Crofter and Diamond Eyre on that running and, from his low draw, can grab a prominent position. Cape Hope

5.15 FIJI HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,000

-05340	LEGEND OF	LOVE (13)	Glover 8 7	SOW	18
5056	GORGEOUS	GUSSY (12	M Bel 83	C Carver	n
001565	WINGS AWA	ROED (5) M	Chennon 8 2		-
0306-0	CAPTAIN JO	HES (B) M /	Buckley 9 2	Gracey	7) 8
44030	90 POSITIV	E (15) Mrs G	Pecs 9 6	F Nort	on 7
60-630	COURAGE	MDER FIRE	(B) OArbutmot	85 A Pri	2
000-	TREASURE !	ISLAND (217) Sir M Prescott	84C Nat	
				A McCertity	
				G Bardin	
			dared -		
TIME.	2.1 Lament C	View 44	Winne America	Transver lakes	

BETTING: 3-1 Lagend Of Love, 4-1 Wings Americal, Transurs Intent, 5-1 Courage Under Fire, Gorgeous Gussy, 12-1 Eager Hero, 14-1 others FORM VERDICT

Legend Of Love bossts solid furf credentials and is sure to give a good account while Capitain Jones is a possible on one piece of form last year. However, expect to see improvement from the unexposed TREASURE ISLAND, who will relish the step up to today's trip.

Godolphin Also ran: 9-4 Lord Advocate (4th), 6-1 Tycon Time (Stit). 5 ram. 11/4, 7, 11, 5. (winner bey golding by Green Danoer out of Bowl Of Honey, trained by C Dwyer at Newmarket for The Select Newmarket Partnership). Totac 28:50; \$1.10, \$1.60. DF: 26:60. CSF: \$28:12.

a third of the entries for next month's King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes at WOLVERHAMPTON Ascot. Sheikh Mohammed's 2.20: 1. SOUEN (S Whitworth) 9-1; 2. By Jay 4-1; 3. Welcome Lu 14-1, 9 ran. 11-4 fav Imperial Glan. 3/3, 2/3. (T Mile). Tota: 270; Elan G300, 2-42 TS-5007 CGS-54361. Tricast: 8472.78. Tric: £65/0. team has entered 10 horses for the mile and a half contest, Britain's premier all-aged middle distance race. They include 2.55; 1. MAZZELNIO (Antirony Bond) 12-1; 2. Monaco Gold 6-1; 3. Time Can Tell 7-1. 5 ran. 9-4 tev Bendleet. 2'A, 10. (A Bal-ley). Tota: \$2420; \$2.20, \$110, \$6.60. DF: last year's winner Swain, City Honours, runner-up in the E36.20. CSP: £78.21, \$250, \$750, £550. DF: £36.20. CSP: £78.31, 3.30: 1. DREAMING (G Duffield) 4-7 fev; 2. Flori 8-1; 3. Headinyards Tipple 20-1. 9 mm. 7, 5. (Sr Mark Prescott), 7ote: £190; \$120, Derby and Cape Verdi, ninth in the same race, Oaks second Bahr and Prix Jean Prat winner Almutawakel as well as

GUDULPHIN is responsible for

Faithful Son. 4.05: 1. MANGUS (S Whitworth) 8-1: 2. Other entries including the Ağız 5-1; 3. General Equation 14-1 8 ran. 7-4 fav Dominant Air, 1, 2. (K Cunningham-Brown), Tole: £1480; £380, £190, £200. DF: Derby winner High-Rise, French Derby first and second Dream Well and Croco Rouge, 2. Five Ways Flyer 9-4; 3. Just Sunday 5-Oaks winner Shahtoush and Coronation Cup victor Silver 11/4. (H Howe). Tota: £1330; £780, £130, DF; £3150, CSF: £3581. Non Runner: Risk One

Patriarch. ■ Michael Harris, 49, the former editor of the Racing Post, is to join the Racehorse Owners' Association in August as its new Chief Executive.

Hock, 14-1 Amron, 16-1 Pageboy, 100-1 Desart Lore. 10 rsn. /s, 1, 1, /s, nk. (winner bay mere by Shaadi out of Mophe, trained by Martyn Warre at Richmond for Willem Graham), Tolie: £1850; £360, £200. £140. DF: £23.20. CSF: £4824. Tricast: £1813. Tric: £25.20. 5.05; (tmSf apprentice handicap)
1. URGENT REPLY....... (J Goldbed) 10-1

... (J D Smith) 8-1

5.15: 1. SHIPLEY GLEN (9 Duffield) 4-7 far; 2. Lyclan 7-2; 3. Nouveau Cheval 4-1. B ran. 1½, 8. (Sir Mark Prescott). Tote: \$160, \$130, \$100, \$280, DF: \$280, CSF: \$378. Tricast £649.

Placepot: £34.20. Quadpot: £12.10.

5210 5380 Dual Forecast £380 CSF: £624

£1310, CSF: £52.78, Tricest: £82068

Placepot: £549.20. Quadpot: £1980.

Wall Trail

Engli

Pioline defaulted for abuse

BY GUY HODGSON at Nottingham

IF NOTHING else the Nottingham Open is providing some extraordinary pieces self-destruction. Hard on the heels of the top seed, Marcelo Rios, losing in a manner that could most kindly be called limp, Cedric Pioline went out of the rain-hit tournament yesterday for swearing at the umpire.

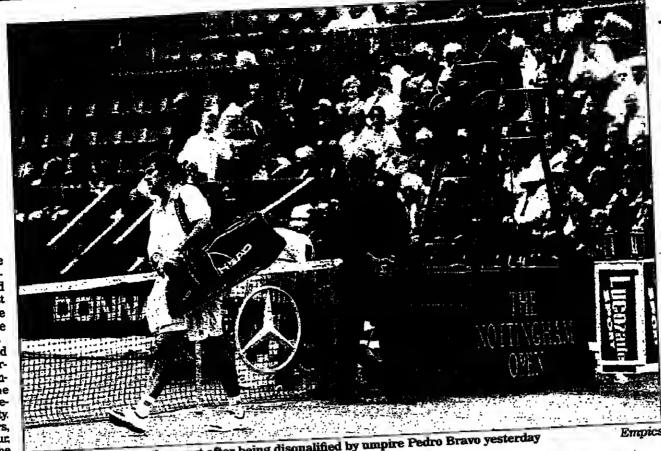
It was a sharp deviation in character by the normally mildmannered 29-year-old Frenchman who becomes only the fourth man to be defaulted in singles since 1996 and the first in this country since the American Jeff Tarango was thrown out of Wimbledon for similar verbal abuse three years ago.

It was also needless. Pioline, last year's Wimbledon runner-up, lost his rag over, of all things, a missed call for let. His opponent Scott

Draper, passed him down the line and although the French. man complained, he managed another serve and another lost point to go love 40 down before saying something more to the umpire, Chile's Pedro Bravo.

This time Bravo suspended play and, after calling the tournament supervisor Gerry Armstroog on to Centre Court, the fourth-seeded Pioline was defaulted for a verbal obscenity. The score, for what it matters, was 6-3, 2-1 in Draper's favour, the last point awarded by the umpire as part of a punishment that will include forfeiture of prize-money, zero ranking points and a fine that will be announced today.

"I have had a conversation with Cedric since and I'm clear in my mind what the umpire said happened did happen," Armstrong said. "That level of verbal abuse would have resulted in a similar punishment in any sport, whether it was basketball, football or whatever."



Cedric Pioline leaves the court after being disqualified by umpire Pedro Bravo yesterday

Neither Armstrong nor Pioline would say exactly what words were used but confirmed they were in French. Unfortunately for the player, Bravo, who is from Chile, has a working un-

derstanding of the language. The umpire made a mistake. He missed a clear net," Pioline said afterwards, claiming he had been harshly treated. "I

can't remember what I said to him but when you get pissed off you don't send flowers. You are not happy, they are not nice

The outcome was surprising for the Australian winner as it was for the loser. "I thought it was a let, too," Draper, who won at Queen's last week, said. Draper, who is the world No

73, and now has an unblemished grass court record of seven wins out of seven this season, also believed a warning would have been enough punishment.

The outburst sprang from a match that had been innocuous in nature and remarkable mainly in that it was allowed to go ahead despite light rain. Pioline, who volleyed five times into

the net in the first two games, lost his first serve which was the decisive moment of an opening set that was halted once due to the weather. The second set, too, was hardly explosive until Pio-

line's verbal volley. The default at least had a positive effect in providing the one singles result of a day that again was badly disrupted.

Aura of Graf keeps Smith on back foot

JOHN ROBERTS at Eastbourne

SOMEONE BEARING a strong resemblance to Steffi Graf won in straight sets at the Direct Line Insurance Championships yesterday, moving athletically about the Centre Court to slice wickedly low backhands and drive unstoppable forehands. "I think I'm on schedule," the seven-times Wimbledon champion said.

Graf's second-round opponent, Sam Smith, ranked No 1 in Britain and No 112 in the world, was left in no doubt. "She's a formidable sight down the other end of the court," Smith said, having caught her breath after her first experience of competing against the 29-year-old German had ended in defeat, 6-1, 6-2.

Try though she did for the 56 minutes of the match, Smith was unable to clear her mind of her opponent's identity. When she came close, Graf would remind her with a punishing efficiency. "The holes in your game become so much more obvious," Smith said.

Without overestimating the ignificance of yesterday's result, it was impossible not to be impressed by Graf's fitness. Dispensing with the support she had been wearing on her left knee, she moved so freely that observers had to remind themselves that here before them was the same player who only weeks ago had spoken of the possibility of being forced to retire.

Making light of a tricky wind, Graf allowed herself a smile of satisfaction at the quality of some of her shots. "In the conditions, I don't think I could have played much better," Graf

where the DFS Classic was ruined by rain, was just a frus-

trating memory. "I feel as if I've only just started playing on grass again," Graf said yesterday. "I'm practising well and moving well. I enjoyed myself very much out there. I hit a couple of pretty good shots. My forehand worked well, and I didn't make too many mistakes on the baseline. I'm having a good

Graf has even taken a peek at the Wimbledon draw, which brings an opening match against Gala Leon Garcia, of Spain, ranked No 48, and projects a meeting with Mary Pierce in the last 16 and Monica Seles in the quarter-finals. "Tm not a person who likes to look far ahead, but it's a good draw," Graf said.

You never know..." Smith made the valid point that she does not often get to play top players and that it might be wise to judge Graf's form against opponents who may not be intimidated by her name.

In the quarter-finals today, Graf is due to play the 17-yearold Russian prodigy Anna Kournikova for the first time on grass, having beaten her 6-2, 6-1 in the fourth round at the 1996 US Open. Continued success would pit Graf against her old rival Arantxa Sanchez Vicario or the 16-year-American Serena Williams.

Venus Williams turned 18 yesterday and also turned in one of her most disappointing performances, in losing to the experienced Natasha Zvereva, 6-2, 6-1. Unable to keep the ball in court, and neglecting to use her potential for volleying, Williams, seeded No 7 for Wimbledon, said she would have to practise harder and practise more seri-

ously, "as if I'm playing a match". Venus did not celebrate her birthday because she is a Jehovah's Witness.

SPORTING DIGEST

BASEBALL BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Cleveland 9 Kansas
City 1: Minnesota 8 Detroit 5: Tampa Bay
4 Toronto 3: Batumore 2 New York Varilees 0: Boston 6 Chicago White Sox 1:
Calkland 9 Texas 7: Anaheim 3 Seattle 2.
RATIONAL LEAGUE: Milmauker 11
Chicago Cubs 2: Artzona 5 Cincinnati 1:
New York Mess 2 Montreal 0: Philadelphia
8 Pitisburgh 7: Adanta 7 Florida 0: 5t Louis
9 Houston 4: San Diego 10 Los Angeles
6: San Francisco 5 Colorado 3.

Players from the National Basketball Players from the National Basketball Association will not compete in the World Championships in Arhens next month. Greek organisers have been officially notified by USA Basketball that NBA players have been with-drawn from the national team, the defending champion. The players union and the NBA are negotiating a new contract and the NBA play-ers had threatened to boycott the championships in retaliation for a possible league lock-out.

BOWLS
THOMAS TAYLOR WATERLOO BOWLS
Women's Chird repuds A Carwood
(Heswall) bt 8 Kemp (Warrington) 21-17;
F McMeeken (Slackpool) bt M Smalley
(Bolton) 21-18; C Harpin (Huddersfield)
bt C Brocklehurst (Buston) 21-15; J
Jones (Heswall) bt 5 Mashford (Warrington) 21-13; A Jennings (Huddersfield) bt
A Wells (Maghull) 21-12; M Mars (St Helens) bt 5 Latham (Buscon) 21-11; A Crank
(Kligan) bt 1 Tilford (Blackpool) 21-12; O
Morrison (Warrington) bt 5 5mith (5t Helens) 21-15.

CRICKET

Australia will play four Tests and seven one-day Internationals while touring the West Indies early next year. The squad will arrive on 19 Feb and contest the Frank Worrell Trophy at Tirinidad, Jamaica. Barbados and Antigua from 5 March to 7 April. Australia will play two more one-dayers than on the 1995 tour, as a warm-up to the World Cup in England In May.

Sussex expect to be without Keith

Sussex expect to be without Keith Newell, their all-rounder, for up to six weeks because he has broken a finger on his left hand. Newell suf-fered the injury when he was a sufinger on his lert hand. Neweil suf-fered the injury when he was struck by a delivery from Nantie Hayward, the South African pace bowler, dur-ing the tour match at Arundel. ing the tour match at Arundel. Suresh Perera, the 5rl Lanka fast-medium bowler, won his first international call-up yesterday when he was included in their squad for the Independence Cup. Srl Lanka named 14 players for the limited overs tournament which also includes India and New Zealand and starts tomorrow.

SRI LANKA SOUAD: Ranatunga (capt), Jayasunya, Azapattu, Kaluwitharana, De Silva, Jayawardene, Mahanama, Ohar-

CYCLING

Davide Rebellin of Italy won the sec-ond stage of the Tour of Switzer-land yesterday with a solo attack on the final climb. Rebellin finished 41 seconds ahead of Francesco Casagrande, a fellow Italian, who was among 11 riders to finish in the same

Casagrande, a fellow Italian, who was among 11 riders to finish in the same ome. Switzerland's Beat Zberg was third. The stage win gave Rebellin the overall lead in the race overtaking Laurent Jalabert of France, who won Tuesday's 5.6km (3.5-mile) prologue in Biel with a time of 6min 35.09sec.

TOUR OF SWITZERLAND Breaday's Prologue time trial 5.6km 1 L. Jalabert (Fr) 6min 35.09sec. 2 P Gaurnont (Fr) +2sec. 3 J Ulrich (Ger) +4; 4 E Dekker (Neth) same time: 5 S Boscardin (Swit) +5; 6 L Dulaux (Swit) 47: 7 O Millar (GB) +7; 8 R Meirer (Swit) 47: 7 O Millar (GB) +7; 8 R Meirer (Swit) 47: 7 O Millar (GB) +7; 8 R Meirer (Swit) 47: 7 O Millar (GB) +7; 8 R Meirer (Swit) 47: 7 O Millar (GB) +7; 8 R Meirer (Swit) 47: 8 S Derg (Swit) +9; 10 O Nardello (R) 11; 11 L Aurs (Esc) 47. Mescenday's second stage (182.2 Just From Blat to Villars-sus-Ollon): 1 O Rebellin (R) 41 AZmin 54sec; 2 F Casagrande (R) +41sec 3 B Zberg (Swit) same time; 4 S Gazzelli (R): 5 L Jalabert (Fr); 6 P Lutterberger (Aut); 7 P Tonkov (Rus): 8 A Noc (It); 9 W Bell (R): 10 I Gottl (It); all 57. Overall standbage: 1 Rebellin 4hr 49min Assec; 2 Jalabert +27sec; 3 Zberg +0.32. 4 Gazzelli +0.39; 5 Belli +0.44; 6 F Gazco Casas (Sp) same time; 7 Lutterberger +0.43; 8 Casagrande +0.46; 9 Noe 57:10 Ionkov +0:52.

FOOTBALL

Boris Ignatiev, Russia's coach, has offered his resignation to the Russian football association who will consider it when the World Cup has finished.

Derby have appointed Eric McManus, the former Notts Coun-ty and Coventry goalkeeper, as the director of recruitment for the club's youth academy. McManus moves to Pride Park after spending more than nine years in a youth team role with Second Division Walsall. Reading have moved their home Second Division lixture w Bank Holiday Monday, 31 August, to Wednesday 2 September, because it clashed with Reading Rock lestival. Jose Antonio Camacho, the former Real Madrid player, returned to the club as coach yesterday. Camacho takes over from Jupp Heynckes, who was fired on 28 May despite wingles the European Cup.

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ning the European Cup. POOLS DIVIDENDS MATCHES PLAYED SATURDAY, 13

BRITTENS Treble chance (three disf-dends only): 24pts £603.00; 23 £12.00; 22 £0.75. Pour draws £9.45. Eight homes £8.50. 5ix aways £0.40. LITTLEWOODS Treble chance: 24pts £6,128,10: 23 £91.70; 22 £6,20; 21 £3.10. Half-cluse results: £820.15. Four draws £27.75. Nine homest £1,428.50, Six aways £1.30. VERNONS Trable chance (three dividends only): 24pts £1.726.90; 23 £63.20; 22 £6.10.

SAILING The America's Cup yachting com-mittee has said that the 1999 chal-lenger races will be sailed off Auckland, dismissing calls by a Syd-ney syndicate to switch the series to Australia.

SPEEDWAY

TENNIS

MOTTINGHAM OPEN Men's singles, second round: 5 Draper (Aus) bt C Pioline (Fr) 6-3 2-1 defaulted: M Woodforde (Aus) leads 8 5 Exven (NZ) 5-2: O Prinosil (Ger) level with D Nestor

bt T Panova (Rus) 6-7 6-3 6-1; E Likhovsewa (Rus) bt N Tauzlat (Fr) 6-2 4-68-6. Second round: A Sanchez Vic-ario (Sp.) bt T Tanasugarn (Thai) 6-2 7-5: J Novotna (Cz Rep) bt N Dechy (Fr) 6-2 6-2; I Spiriea (Rom) bt K-A Guse (Aus) 6-0 7-5: N Zvereva (Beia) bt V Williams (US) 6-2 6-1; S Williams (US) bt A Sugiyarna (Japan) 6-2 7-5; 5 Graf (Ger) bt 5 Smith (GB) 6-1 6-2: A Kournikova (Rus) bt M De Swardt (SA) 6-4 6-1: M Serna (Sp) bt E Likhovtse-va (Rus) 6-7-5.

wa (Rus) 6-4 7-5.

WIMBLEDON QUALIFYING (Roe-hampton) Men's singles, first round:
O Sela (Isr) bt A Ofhovsky (Rus) 6-3 6-2;
M Bhupathi (India) bt A Fahike 6-1 6-2;
F Loven (Swe) bt J Selaiov (Aus) 6-3 6-2;
M Sell (US) bt C Haggard (SA) 2-6 6-3
6-4; W McGuire (US) bt G Carraz (Fr)
3-6 6-4 6-1; M Kohlmann (Ger) bt T
Spinks (GB) 7-6 6-3; A Zingman (Arg)
bt E Erikch (Isr) 3-6 6-4 6-4; P Tramacchi (Aus) bt Holmes (Aus) 6-2 4-6 6-4;
O Skoch (Cz Rep) bt J Stastak (Aus) 6-4
6-4; B Behrens (US) bt L Friedl (Cz Rep)
7-6 7-6; N Marques (Por) bt R Matheson (GB) 7-6 6-3; P Gauthler (Fr) bt J
Kroslak (Sicwak) 6-3 6-4; A Hernandez
(Men) bt S Randjelowk (Aus) 6-4 6-2;
Men) bt S Randjelowk (Aus) 6-4 6-2;
ROSMALEN OPEN (Rosmalen Fox (GB) bt A Ferreira (Br) 6-4 7-6.

ROSMALEN OPEN (Rosmalen, Neth) Men's singles, first round: A Modwede (Uiv) bt A Calarrava (Sp) 6-2 6-3; P Wessels (Neth) bt J M Gambill (US) 6-4 6-4. Women's singles, first round: C Rubin (US) bt A Mauresmo (Ft) 6-1 6-4; A Dechaume-Balleret (Ft) bt Shi-Ting Wang (Taiw) 6-3 6-2; M Oremans (Neth) bt D van Roost (Bel) 6-3 7-6; K Boogert (Neth) bt K Habsudova (Slovak) 6-1 6-2; R Dragomir (Rom) bt J Habard-Decugis (Fr) 7-6 6-3; G L Garcia (Sp) bt F Labat (Arg) 6-4 6-1; Y Yoshida (Japan) bt O Chiladkova (Cz Rep) 7-5 6-4; K Po (US) bt A Glass (Ger) 7-5 7-6; L Golarsa (It) bt A Sanchez Lorenzo (Sp) 6-2 6-3.

BT's line up for the World Cup.





France from 13p

Austria from 19p



Cameroon from 56p

Colombia from 68p



Japan from 31p

Italy from 15p

Germany from 13p









South Africa from 38p



Tunisia from 31p

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England face loss of Stewart

By DEREK PRINGLE

THE LORD'S jimx has seemingly struck again, this time before a single ball has been bowled. Alec Stewart, still feeling the effects of a mild bout of food poisoning, has now succumbed to a back spasm. With his Surrey colleague, Mark Butcher, almost certain to miss out due to a badly bruised thumb, England are more in need of a trip to Lourdes than to the home of

Stewart's absence, after just one home Test in charge would be a huge blow to England's morale. As captain and wicketkeeping all-rounder, he is nigh on irreplaceable, and the selection panel have sent for Graeme Hick and Jack Russell to cover for two of his roles. A third, Nasser Hussain, will assume the captaincy while Steve James is on standby to replace Butcher, should the opener fail a fitness test this morning.

Hussain's only experience of captaining England is a one-day international in Auckland two winter's ago, a match England won. "I know I'll have to stay thinking for the next five days," said Hussain, knowing that even if Stewart starts, the slightest recurrence of the trouble would require him to take charge.

The England captain has suffered from similar problems before - he says the problem afflicts him once or twice a year. In fact, it was a back spasm that prevented him from keeping wicket for two sessions in the Lord's Test match last year. On that occasion, John Crawley kept wicket until the spasm had subsided, something both his team-mates and England supporters hope will have happened again by the time be gets to the ground this morning.

"I felt it when I woke up yesterday," said Stewart, who will have no doubt have been popping anti-inflammatory tablets for the last 24 hours. "On past evidence, it's usually OK after 24 hours and Pm reasonably

Instead of resting, however, he spent 30 minutes keeping wicket to Robert Croft and Mark Ramprakash under the supervision of Alan Knott, a move that suggests it is nowhere near as disabling as the back spasso



Alec Stewart, England's captain, winces while working with the team's physiotherapist, Wayne Norton (right), at Lord's yesterday

Graham Thorpe suffered during the one-dayers.

According to the chairman of selectors, David Graveney. there will be no halfway house whereby Stewart will rule himself fit to bat but not to keep wicket. As someone with the best current hatting record at Lord's - in 10 Tests he has scored 961 runs at an average of 53.38 - it seems a curious decision, particularly as his absence will have to be filled by two players anyway, presumably at the expense of a bowler.

Despite his absence from England colours for 19 Tests, Hick, with 887 runs at an average of 68, is one of the season's form horses. A recent entrant to the 100 hundreds club, Hick has made five three figure scores this season, although one was against Oxford Uni-

Form is also the reason that the 30-year-old James, with 733 runs at 66.63 for Glamorgan, gave him the edge over his close rival Darren Maddy. Picked for the one-day squad earlier in the season, Maddy's poor form in the Championship. following a brilliant England A tour last winter, has probably cost him his chance.

Butcher, James, having come close last season, seems almost certain to make his Test debut. If he does, he will walk to the crease with his old Cambridge University captain, Michael Atherton.

Firm friends for the last decade, Atherton apparently rings James whenever the Glamorgan player gets a hundred. But before the public at large begin to think there is a soft, gooey side to Atherton, the nature of the call always begins with the inquiry: "Did they have a third man?" - a matey Judging by yesterday's dig at James' penchant for

gloomy progress report on scoring the bulk of his runs behind square on the off side.

"I'm obviously delighted, though I wish Mark Butcher all the best," said James, who became aware of his call-up while in the gym at Cardiff, waiting for yesterday's rain to relent. "When Mike Fatkin [Glamorgan's cricket secretary] and Matthew Maynard came over looking serious, I thought I was in trouble, instead of being asked to cover at Lord's."

Whoever plays, it would be cruel fortune if England are de-nied the services of both their captain and their left-handed opener, the latter so effective in

disrupting both Allan Donald's conditions this morning will and Shaun Pollock's line in the First Test

On a pitch still retaining a good deal of moisture, England could probably do without blooding a new opener, although South Africa look set to take the plunge, replacing the hinging Gerhardus Liebenberg with Adam Bacher, the nephew of Ali Bacher, the managing director of the South African Cricket Board.

With pitches at Lord's having a tendency towards uneven bounce, England will probably want to hat first, though any rain or overcast

probably persuade the successful caller to bowl.

If it does, England in spite of all their injury problems surrounding their captain, will also have to decide which of their pace bowlers to leave out, though Croft could miss out if rain, forecast for most of today, causes the start to be delayed by more than a few hours.

Boon in bloom as Durham

DAVID BOON'S imperious century underpinned Durham's innings against Yorkshire at the Riverside yesterday. The Australian finished unbeaten on 120, with his patient hundred coming in 290 minutes off 263 balls and with 11 fours, as Durham, second in the County Championship, finished on 311 for 7.

dominate

Boon was helped by 57 from Nick Speak, Martin Speight's 41 and Michael Foster's 35. Paul Hutchison was the pick of the Yorkshire bowlers with figures of 3 for 40.

John Stephenson had a hand in five of Derbyshire's six wickets to fall at Basingstoke, as Hampshire pegged back the visitors. Adrian Rollins and Michael Slater put on 92 for the first wicket, before the Australian became the first of Stephenson's three victims, falling lbw for 47.

m. pir

After Tim Tweats also departed leg before for nine, Stephenson then bowled Kim Barnett for 47, before taking catches to remove Rollins when he had reached 89 and Matthew Cassar for 10.

At the close, Derbyshire were 245 for 6 with Karl Krikken unbeaten on 25.

Jason Gallian and Tim Robinson compiled an unbroken 130 third-wicket stand for Nottinghamshire by the time rain stopped play against Kent at Canterbury. Matthew Dowman and Usman Afzaal both departed cheaply to leave Nottinghamshire on 54 for 2, before Gallian and Robinson who both made fifties, set about the

Kent bowling

Just 50 minutes of play took place at New Road, as persistent rain restricted Worcestershire to 37 without loss from 11.4 overs against fourth-placed Gloucestershire.

There was no play in Northamptonshire's game against Middlesex

Knight and Powell provide sound platform

BY JOHN COLLIS

Warwickshire v Sussex

THE BIZARRE calendar for this cricket season means that not only do supporters not know what day it is, now they are not too sure of the time either.

A midday start at Bristol last week apparently encouraged no extra activity through the turnstiles, but the experiment is repeated at Cardiff and Northampton.

Hove, of all places. Where are the office blocks youthful influx.

and factories, full of workers eager to throng into the ground as soon as the Klaxon sounds? Most people do not move to Hove to work - they seek to ing April. After all it was they. come later in life, for an ulti- not the once all-conquering mately grimmer purpose, and surely have little appetite for game third in the table, while cricket that goes on past their . the visitors languish way down

An early straw poll around this. "I'll be home for dinner as time since his sacking.

mission was free, there was oo swer session for schoolchildren The new-look Sussex, how-

ever, should not be blamed for enterprise, even when it meant holding a floodlit game in freez-Warwickshire, who began this in 16th place. It is a fixture with added spice, because Ed Gidthe ground tended to confirm dins returns to Hove for the first

on the boundary.

Although signing Chris Adams as captain has helped Sussex's transformation, he had an unhappy day yesterday. He won the toss, scented some moisture in the wicket and asked Warwickshire to bat.

Nick Knight lived danger-ously for a while, in the way that left-handers do, snicking through the slips and looping one boundary over their heads. And his partner, Michael Pow-

jury, was reprieved at gully on 21. But soon they passed the season's previous best opening stand for Warwickshire of 59, and as the wicket straightened out they cruised towards 200.

Powell, whose career best had been 73, posted an impressive century before the belated tea interval, with Knight joining him soon afterwards. When the visitors passed

Sussex have gone one better, usual" was a common asser- He marked it sportingly with ell, just establishing himself However, it held no surprise for or worse, with a 1pm start - at tion. And after 6pm, when ad- an afternoon question and an- due to Andy Moles' Achilles in- the two hatsmen, who had the two hatsmen, who had taken the invitation to bat with gratitude and continued to showcase their talents into the The Sussex fast bowling at-

tack of Jason Lewry and the youthful James Kirtley, supported by Alex Edwards and veteran Mark Robinson have enjoyed some penetrative days this summer, but yesterday they were mere pea-shooters, the 200 mark, Adams was will- as the stand between Knight ing to try anything, including his and Powell moved from subvery occasional medium pace. stantial to monumental.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Britannic Assurance County Championship

Durham v Yorkshire

RIVERSIDE (Day 1 of 4), Bonus Points Durbam 3 York-Washing WOR 1065 DURHAM - First Indings

P D Collingwood b Hutchison. Fell: 1-13 2-35 3-104 4-112 5-205 6-250 7-273.

To bat: J Wood, 5 J Harmison.

Bowting (to date): M J Hoggard 16-3-71-1; P M Hurchison
19-4-40-3; G M Hamilton 19-4-56-1; R J Sidebottom 17-458-1; R D 5temp 24-5-60-1; D S Lehmann 5-0-12-0.

Medicath 17 Buck 0 5 Lehmann YORKSHIRE: M P Vaughan, A McGrath, 'D Byas, O 5 Lehmann, M J Wood, IR J Blakey, G M Hamilton, R D Stemp, M J Hoggard, R J Sidebottom, P M Hutchlson, Uppplress: G 1 Burgess and T E Jesty.

Glamorgan v Lekcestershire CARDIFF (Day 1 of 4), Total Books Points Glan

Leicestershire won toss LEICESTERSHIRE - First Innings a F Smith c Maynard b Butcher _____24 0 . 3 P V Simmons c Powell b Thomas16 . 0 3 38 A Habib not out tP A Nixon not out

Extras (ib7 nb2)..... Total (for 5, 42.5 overs)124 Fall: 1-8 2-8 3-73 4-73 5-102. Pall: 1-8 2-8 3-73 4-73 3-102.
To bat: *C C Lewis, J M Dakin, A O Mullaily, M T Brimson.
Bourling (to date): Waqar Younis 8.5-1-18-2; O T Parkin 82-16-0; O A Cosker 4-1-10-0; S O Thomas 13-3-50-2; G P Burcher 9-2-23-1,

GLAMORGAN: W L Law, A Dale, M J Powell. "M P Maynard. P A Cottey, G P Butcher, †A D Shaw, Wagar Younis, O A Cosler, 5 O Thomas, O T Parkin. Umpires: 0 R Shepherd and A Clarkson.

Hampshire v Derbyshire BASINGSTORE (Day 1 of 4), Books Points Hampsi Hampshire won toss

DERBYSHIRE - First Inches M E Cassar c Stephenson b James 10 0 Total (for 6, 75.3 overs) ...

Part: 1-92 2-116 3-178 4-208 5-228, 6-244. To bat: P Aldred, S J Lacey, K J Dean. Bowling (to date): N A M McLean 11-2-37-0; P J Hartley 20-4-64-1; 5 D Udai 3-1-11-0; K D James 7-2-31-2; C A Connor 8-0-41-0; J P Stephenson 19.3-5-47-3; A D Mascarenhas

HAMPSHIRE: G W White, J P Stephenson, "R A Smith, C A Connor, †A N Aymes, A O Mascarenhas, P R Whiteker, S D Udel, K D James, P J Hartley, N A M McLean. Unpulses: V A Holder and & Leadbeater.

Kent v Nottinghamshire

CANTERBURY (Day 1 of 4), No bosus points

Kent was toss NOTTINGHAMSHIRE - First Innings ...12 0 1 49 M P Dowman b McCague _74 0 6 191 283 J E R Gallian not out _1B 0 2 41 48 Extras (610 w8 nb6). Total (for 2, 73.1 overs) Fall: 1-24 2-54. To bats "P Johnson, G F Archer, P J Franks, †C M W Read, P

A Strang, M N Bowen, A R Orem.

Bourlag (to date): MJ McCague 18-7-33-1; AJ Phälips 17.1-2-50-0; J De la Pena 13-2-31-0; M V Fleming 13-4-25-7; C L Hooper 12-3-35-0. MENTS O P Fulton, R W T Key, T R Ward, C L Hooper, A P

Wells, M.J. Walker, M.V. Fleming, "15 A Marsh, J.De is Pena. B J Philips. M J McCague. Umptress O J Constant and K E Paimer.

Northamptonshire v Middlesex NORTHAMPTON (Day 1 of 4) No play yesterday (rain).

Somerset v Essex

BATH (Day 1 of 4). No bosus points SOMERSET - First lanings Bowling (to date): M C liott 4.2-4-0-0; A P Cowan 3-1-34-0; R C trail 1-0-1-0.

Using P J Prichard, O D J Robinson, A P Grayson, 5 G Law, R C Irani, 5 D Peters, 1R J Rollins, D R Law, M C Hott, A P Cowan, P M Such. Usingkres: A G T Whitehead and M J Harris. Sussex v Warwickshire HOVE (Day 1 of 4), Books Points Sussex () Warwick shire 1

Worcestershire v Gloucestershire

WORCESTER (Day 1 of 4), No books points Worrestershire won toss GLOUCESTERSHIRE - First Inches

Rus 6s 4s Balls Min......20 0 3 39 4815 0 3 32 48 G I Macmillan not out.

Lampiet 1.4-1-0-0.

WORCESTERSHERE: W P C Weston, A Hareez, G R Haynes, V S Solarid. "T M Moody, O A Leatherdale, 15 J Rhodes, 5 R Lampiet, R K Illingworth, P J Newport, A Sheriyar.

Lampires: H D Bird and P Willey.

AXA League

Lancashire v Surrey

OLD TRAFFORD (Day 1 of 1) Surrey won toss

To bate: B C Holikoake, U N Batty, M P Bicknell, A J Tudor, R M Anth. J E Benjamin.

Bowslings: P J Martin 5-1-12-1; 1 D Austin 5-1-14-2; Wasim Akram 4-0-6-0; R J Green 7, 3-0-36-0; G Vates 4-0-23-0

Unspires: J H Harris and J H Hampshire

SECOND XI CHAMPIONESHIP (First day of times; today: 11.0):

Pasteg: Essex 103 for 0 v Glamorgan (rain). Flactasspacosad CC:

Derbysine 133 for 4 (R M 5 Weston 50no) v Hampshire (rain). Lesson

Second Co. Middlesex 84 for 1 v Worcestershire (rain). The Owal:

Northamptonshire 335 for 6 (D J Sales 135, K J Innes 51) v Sur
ny; (Saconad day of Foor; today: 11.0): Middlesbroogstb burtum

213 (5 Hutton 52: J D Middlebrook 6-53); Vortshire 75 for 4. Treast

Bridge: Lecssershire 109 and 21 for 2; Nortinghamshire 248 (G

E Welron 107, C M Tokey 70; D Williamson 4-44). STARTING TODAY SECOND. CORNHILL INSURANCE TEST (First day of five, including Sanday, 11.0): Lord's: England v South Africa. BRETANNIC ASSURANCE COUNTY CHAMPIONESHIP (First day of four; locioding Sanday, 12.0): Old Trafford: Lancashire v Surrey.

Second XI Champlonship

336-6 (D J Sales 135, K J Innes 51). Indicington (The Lansbury): Middlesex v Worces diesex 84-1. No further play today due to rain. Trent Bridge: Leicestershire 108 and 212 Nottingha 248 (G E Welton 107. C M Tolley 70, D Williamson 444). Finchampstead: Hampshire v Derbyshire. Derbyshire 1334 (R

M 5 Weston 58no) rain stopped play. Middlesborough: Durham 213 (5 Hutton 52. J D Middlebrook 6-53) Yorkshire 76-4. Panteg: Glamorgan v Essex. Essex 103-0. Rain stopped play

Today's fixtures (11,00 unless stated)

CORNHILL INSURANCE SECOND TEST (day 1 of 5) Lord's: England v South Africa BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (Day 1 of 4).

Old Trafford: Lancashire v Surrey (12,00) BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (Day 2 of 4]. Riverside: Durham v Yorkshire. Cardiff: Glamorgan v Leicestershire (12.00), Basingstoke: Hampshire v Derbyshire. Canterbury: Kent v Nottinghamshire. Northampton: Northamptonshire v Middlesex (12.00). Bath: Somerset v Essex. Howe: Sussex v Warwickshire (13.00). Wordester: Worcester

Raper signs new deal at **Castleford**

RUGBY LEAGUE

BY DAVE HADFIELD

STUART RAPER, the Castleford coach, has ended speculation about his future by signing a new contract which will keep him at the club until the end of next season.

The Australian had been linked with jobs both here and at home, but said yesterday: "My future is with the Tigers. Castleford have made great progress over the last 12 months and it is up to all of us to continue that progress and become one of the top clubs in

Super League.
"Although several other opportunities were enticing, I have made the decision to stay with the Tigers and am excited about the future of the club."

Castleford's chief executive Richard Wright, welcomed Raper's decision and criticised other clubs for trying to lure him away. "I am angered that other British Super League cluhs have attempted to undermine our plans by approaching Stuart at the start of the season," he said.

All first-team players in Australia are to be drug-tested after the international full-back. Robbie O'Davis, escaped pun-ishment on a technicality this week. O'Davis tested positive for a performance-enhancing steroid, but avoided action when his club, Newcastle. claimed that the National Rugby League was acting outside its jurisdiction, because players' registrations precede its formation this year.

O'Davis, who denies using a banned substance and claims that a herbal remedy is to blame, is coached at the Knights by one of Raper's predecessors at Castleford, Malcolm Reilly. He is due to play for Queensland in the deciding State of Origin game tomorrow.

Meanwhile, the NRL is to start testing all players and to close the loophole through which O'Davis escaped hy making them sign new registration forms. Suspicions of steroid use have been rife in Australia since the early 1980s. A bandful of players have also tested positive in Britain, two of whom - Jamie Bloem and David Stephenson - are now playing again after serving s. Current policy here is to test two players from each side in ooe selected match per weekend.

Cardiff have made a presentation to MPs in the All Party Rugby League Group oo their case for inclusion in Super League next season.

Second Division Oldham have transfer-listed their 18year-old half-back, Darren Robinson, at his own request as he is seeking first-team rugby on a more regular basis.

The Great Britain amateur rugby league team arrived in Australia yesterday for a historic all-Aboriginal tour.

The 26-strong Barla squad open their six-match programme against the North Queensland Aboriginal Development XIII in Mareeba on Saturday and round off their tour with a Test match against the Australian Aboriginals in Sydney on 12 July as part of

National Aboriginal Week The tourists are led by the Barla player of the year, Colin Carter from West Hull.

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of teams who have scored more than once against Brazil in the 29 matches the World Cup holders have played in the last eight finals. Italy beat them 3-2 in 1982 and the Dutch lost 3-2 to them in 1994

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

WORLD CUP: See page 31. SPEEOWAY ER LEAGUE: Sheffield v Read

ing (7.45)

OTHER SPORTS TENNIS: Nottingham Open; Direct Line Championships (Eastbourne); Wimbledon qualifiers (Roehampton).

Nigeria show way ahead for the smaller nations **

THERE IS a democratic feel to this World Cup. Japan, Iran, Morocco, Saudi Arabia - all the so-called lesser nations have shown what is possible even against the best teams. It says a great deal about how they have managed to play catch-up by introducing foreign coaches, by the experience their better players have gained in the top European leagues and by raising their fitness levels.

However, we should not kid ourselves that there is no longer a big gap between the very best and those now stating their case from unlikely quarters. We saw it on Tuesday night when Brazil easily dismissed a Moroccan side that had surprised many people with the freedom and expression they were able to bring to their opening en-



RAY WILKINS

No matter how much the smaller nations have progressed, however much their coach, Henri Michel, gets them organised, Morocco would still step on to the pitch with Brazil When the early goal goes in, that feeling is doubled. It was also interesting that Moustafa Hadji, who had been so influential against Norway found it very difficult to find space. The Brazilians singled him out for special attention and his involvement was limited.

I thought the Japanese put up a demade it tough for the side who are many people's favourites to lift the trophy. The South Americans did not sparkle as they were hoping to, but I would prefer to praise the opposition rather than look at any Argentinian shortcomings. The Japanese are a great example of how a strengthened domestic league can benefit the national team. Brazil have both their captain, Dunga, and Cesar Sampaio operating in the J-League.

The one side who are the bench-mark for all these third division nations would be Nigeria, who can call on players all earning a wage in the top European leagues and who performed so splendidly to defeat Spain 3-2. The Nigerians can run all day and what is so refreshing about them is that they are always looking to get cent show against Argentina and forward. They keep blasting away and blasting away and you feel they must eventually blow themselves up, but there they are, blasting away

some more. I especially like the midfielder Sunday Olisch, who cracked his side's supero winning goal against Spain, a similar effort to the one I saw him score in the Makita tournament at Goodison Park at the start of last season. I would like to see Nigeria go a long way in this tour-

nament, but I worry about them de-Rufai, gives me the collywobbles from time to time and he needs to show that he is as secure on crosses as he is as a shot-stopper.

There is still a great deal for the smaller nations to do before they can be considered likely winners of a World Cup. The improvements can take you so far but at the very top you do need someone with that little extra to unlock defences or score the goals that will make the difference in a tight encounter.

It's great for the tournament that these countries can compete so well, but having said that it does still concern me that a World Cup which is boasting 32 finalists for the first time can still find no room for Portugal, the Czech Republic or the

fensively. The goalkeeper, Peter book their place in the finals from extremely difficult qualifying groups, while others came through groups where there were only three sides taking part.

I won't be truly happy that we have a World Cup with the best in the world until we have qualifying groups that do away with continental boundaries. In these days of easy travel there is no reason why it cannot be done. Not that long ago, we saw Faustino Asprilla flying home to South America for a midweek international and returning to England in time to play for Newcasile on a Saturday. It happens all the time with the Brazilians who play

Brazil looked very impressive against Morocco. It was their all-

Ukraine. They were forced to try and round strength that caught the eye this time. Ronaldo showed his character by shrugging off an extreme-ly nasty knock and the full-backs were an inspiration from an attacking sense. It was great to see Roberto Carlos knocking 75-yard passes from left to right for the other full-back, Cafu. They are defenders who make things happen and that is important.

However, let the last word today be for Scotland, who really gave their all against Norway and were unfortunate not to take all three points. Assuming that Brazil beat the Norwegians, a Scotland victory over Morocco will put them through into the second round, so let's hope the Africans are feeling a little bit demoralised after conceding those three goals.

Asprilla maverick who went too far

Colombia's talisman has potentially made the most serious mistake of his chequered career. By Trevor Haylett

FOR ALL the colourful exuberance carries a tragic reminder of the high that the Colombians hring to any football gathering, a dark and menacing shadow is never far away. In that sense Faustino Asprilla is a model representative for his South American country, and no one familiar with a temperament that is seemingly always on the point of explosion will be surprised at events which have led to his expulsion from the World Cup stage.

It could well be that his dismissal from the Colombian squad after expressing dismay at the decision of Hernan Dario Gomez to substitute him in the opening game against Romania works to England's advantage in their attempt to finish as winners

Yet with Asprilla's departure from France towards a future unknown - and, because it is Colombia, an immediate future that has worrying possible repercussions - goes some of the electricity that helps make this four-yearly event the brightest sporting spectacle of them all.

Asprilia will provoke argument wherever the game is up for discussion because he is capable of much more than most players can achieve, tt would not be possible to display those skills if they were not protected by a swaggering confidence. With the former Newcastle striker, that arrogance manifests itself in many ways.

On Tuesday it was revealed in his inclination to voice his frustrations and to accuse the coach of favouritism without a moment's thought to the possible consequences of his outburst into a radio microphone. It was to his and the competition's disadvantage that Gomez was not prepared to grant those grievances a fair hearing.

"If you don't obey the rules, you're out" said the coach. "We can't have that type of criticism. It's upset me that this has happened." It is important when considering the consequences of both Asprilla's attack and the decision to send him packing, that full recognition is giveo to

stakes that are involved every time the national side takes to the field.

In 1994, when Andres Escobar's own goal against the United States ensured an early departure from a World Cup that was supposed to promote their emergence as a serious footballing force, the revenge perpetrated by those who had wagered huge sums on a Colombian triumph was to have the defender executed, outside a nightclub.

Those same evil elements were visit home from Italy, he was arrested for waving a shotgun in a bar in his home town. They surfaced again in the build-up to France when death threats were made against Gomez after his squad selection.

It is his irresistible attraction for controversy which made Asprilla such a perverse acquisition for Kevin Keegan at Newcastle at a time when they appeared uncatchable in the Premiership. A new, temperamental and, crucially, non-English speaking, addition was always likely to threaten that ascendancy, no matter that the player arrived from Parma with a £7.5m valuation.

When the Newcastle dream began to die and Keegan departed, it seemed unlikely that Asprilla and Kenny Dalglish could find common ground to suit the interests of team and player. A stunning hat-trick against Barcelona in their opening Champions' League fixture ensured him a place in Geordie hearts forever but Dalglish could not tolerate his characteristically laconic approach and an offer from Parma to take him back was impossible to refuse.

It was another reminder to Asprilla that teams can get along without him; that for all his undoubted brilliance another player can come in to take his place and the team might be healthier as a result.

Nobody can now take his place in this World Cup, but Carlos Valderrama will not be alone in the Colombian camp in stressing that his departure will only strengthen team



Kluivert's insult claim

THE DUTCH striker Patrick Kluivert, who was banned for two World Cup matches for striking Lorenzo Staelens, said he tost control when the Belgian defender called him "a

Kluivert, cleared of rape charges two months ago, was shown the red card after he hit Staelens 10 minutes before the end of the 0-0 draw between the Netherlands and Belgium on Saturday.

"Staelens called me a rapist," the striker told the Dutch newspaper Algemeen Dooblad, breaking his fourday silence over the incident. Kluivert said he could cope with racist abuse: "I am used to that on

the football field. It doesn't burt any world football's ruling body, Fifa, is more. But when I heard that [rapist], I just couldn't keep it in.

"I am not ashamed of what I said to him," Kluivert added. "He reminded me on the field, in a very painful way, of something that hap-pened in the past in my private life." elle Boon, brought charges against

A 20-year-old Dutchwoman, Mari-Kluivert in June last year, accusing the footballer and three of his friends of raping her at his home in Amsterdam after a night out. The court of appeal in Amsterdam threw the case out in February, ruling that there was insufficient evidence. Sepp Blatter, the president of

confident that Sunday's fixture between the United States and Iran will take place, despite reported threats from the Iranians yesterday that they are considering pulling out of France 98 following the screening on French television of an American film seen as projecting a negative image of Iran.

We will, I'm sure, see that peo-ple can go out on the field of play and shake hands, even if their governments do not get along," Blatter said. He added that groups of Iranian exiles have threatened to disrupt the match and that extra security pre-



DIARY

HUNDREDS OF youths went on | hotel's director, Helène Hijosathe rampage at a detention centre in north-east Thailand on Tuesday after officials prevented them from watching a World Cup match on television. About 400 teenagers smashed furniture, television sets and windows at the Nakorn Ratchasima detention centre, about 150 miles from Bangkok, when guards ordered them to turn off their sets at the start of the Brazil against Morocco game. At least three people were injured in four hours of battles that followed as guards and 200 riot police tried to restore order. "The protest leader said the guards punched his face after he refused to switch off the television," a police major, Witaya Thougloh, sald. The violence eventually ended after local reporters intervened to mediate between the two sides and report the youths' grievances.

FRANKIE HEJDUK decided drastic action was needed if the United States were to beat Germany on Monday, so be put his shorts on back to front. The ruse followed the custom of baseball players who often wear their caps backwards when trying to make a comeback. "It didn't work, though," the American wing-back, who came on as a substitute during the 2-0 defeat, said. "That'll be the last time I try that trick."

MOST HOTEL owners in France would love to play host to one of the 32 World Cup teams. But at the luxurious La Reserve resort in the south-western town of Albi, the Rieux, feers the Romanian squad are costing her money. Security is so tight that diners are staying away in droves from the resort's restaurant, which has a single Michelin star "Although the team has taken over all 25 rooms, the restaurant is still open. But no one is coming because they think it's closed," she complained. "There are guards at the entrance to ston people from coming in, so anyone who wants to eat has to reserve in advance so the security personnel know who they are, I have had to send some of the waiters on holiday because it's not worth having them hanging around

SUNDAY, WHICH is the date of the highly charged Group F tie between the United States and Iran, has been chosen as Fifa's second World Fair Play Day. Believe me, it's inst a coincidence," insisted the governing body's communications director, Keith Cooper

PRINCE TAKAMADA, the son of the Japanese emperor, played in a training match at Japan's World Cup camp on Tuesday after he and Princess Hisako dropped in for a royal visit. Asked if he was looking to draft His Imperial Highness, the patron of the Japan Football Association, into the team for the crucial Group H match against Croatia in Nantes on Saturday, the coach, Takeshi Okada, diptomatically replied: "I'll think about it."

RUPERT METCALF

QUOTES OF THE DAY

"What might happen around the stadium is not really my problem. But I hope we will meet a team of gentlemen on the pitch." Anghel lordonescu, Romania coach, on England and their hooligan 'fans'.

"His injury is completely healed, and I think the problem is somewhere in his head. There's some sort of brake in there somewhere." Yugaslavia assistant coach Vujadin Boskov on striker Dejan Savicevic, who has been suffering from a knee injury and missed his country's first game.

"The Norwegian coach has been saying some things about our team. That makes us more determined." Roberto Carlos, Brazil wing-back, promising that his team will not take it easy in their final first-round match against Norway.

If we lose now blame it on my denim jacket Denmark

J'ACCUSE! The Saudi Arabia team have had cash and credit cards ripped off from their base in Marcqen-Baroeuil. The place is, by all accounts, an alcohol-free zone and impenetrable to women, but not immune to the shadowy criminal fraternity. The police are pursuing inquiries. But what I really want to know is this: who pinched my denim

jacket at St-Raphael station? While the British government is very decently looking into compensating Marseilles for all the damage done to the city (which is fine, always providing we go halves with the Tunisian government), maybe the French government could start looking into compensating me for my denim jacket. I should stress that we are not talking just any denim jacket here. This is a genuine Paul Smith, faded, with lining. Apart from anything else, if the temperature drops. I'm done for Plus there was

ANDY MARTIN

AT LARGE IN FRANCE



In fact, I would call it my lucky jacket, because while I've been wearing it England haven't lost a game in this

contest. Now anything could happen. I admit that I had already lost my address book in Paris (sorry to anyone expecting a call or a postcard). And, in fairness, that may have been down to sheer personal negligence. I don't see ruthless addressbook gangs roaming the boulevards.

jacket has been everywhere with me. all those missing addresses. But and this is a big but - that denim jacket was targeted. Some low-life had his eye on it. And I only had to take mine off it for an instant at the station in St-Raphael and it was

gone. The perfect crime. So it was that in the lovely city of Montpellier, where I had been planning to visit the university campus, I went instead to see the "forces of order" as they have become known a sentimental attachment. That I'm not asking for compensation for during the World Cup. After my were you in Marseilles?" The net was

seilles, not to mention the dust-up with the waiter in St Tropez (my conscience is clear on this, he started it), I had to steel myself to venture in. I didn't know if they might have my picture on file with the caption "fauteur de troubles" under it. I knew for sure they had my fiche from the Hotel de la Gare. I hadn't had to fill out one of these police forms at a hotel since the Day of the Jackal era.

"The police, they insist," said the woman at reception, showing me an insistent notice from the police. "The man before you, he was English. From Wolverhampton." She pronounced Wolverhampton as if it were Pentonville or Parkhurst High Security Wing. "He had two enormous black eyes. He didn't fill in 'profession. He didn't need to. He had

'Hooligan' written all over him." She eyed my passport. "Ha!" she exclaimed. "You are English too! And

showdown with the riot police in Mar-tightening. By 11 a.m. there had been at the station then?" "That is why 294 crimes in Montpellier. I know because they gave me a ticket with that number on and asked me to wait with it till my number came up.

Over the next hour or so, the forces of order passed by, having conversations in which the phrase "after the match" came up a lot. One flic came flying out of the interview room showing off a ticket to last night's Italy-Cameroon game.

I now had a fair idea how to get myself off the book if it came to the crunch. I finally tracked down a M. Aquilina at the commissariat, who couldn't speak of events that had taken place in St-Raphael or anywhere other than Montpellier. "OK, then." I said "What has been the impact on crime of the World Cup in Montpellier?" "None," he replied. "Zero. There has been no impact."

"How do you account for the dozen or so guys in camouflage kit and brandishing automatic weapons

there has been no impact." I came across the mayor, Georges

Freche, playing in a "baby-foot" (table-football) tournament on the Esplanade. "This is a little boring." he said. "Maybe we need some England fans to liven things up." I introduced myself. "Don't get me wrong," he said. "I am very fond of the English 1 have not forgotten Churchill Let's not get Marseilles out of proportion."

I told him about my missing denim jacket. Since he is a professor of Roman law when he is not being mayor, I duly reached for my pen and notebook, which were in my back pocket, to take it down as he said something along the lines that, alas, there were villains everywhere. But the pen and the notebook had gone. The World Cup thieves had struck again, t was lucky they hadn't taken my denim jeans as well while

favourites

OVER-CONFIDENCE is the main danger facing Demnark before their second Group C match against South Africa in Toulouse today.

South Africa were overcome by nerves during their 3-0 defeat by France and showed little to worry the more experienced Danes.

South Africa's coach, Philippe Troussier, has promised to send out a much tougher more organised side, but the Danes, who have complained of tiredness, are not concerned. "We're facing a South Africa who have to go out and win, so the game will be played our way, on the counter-attack I think we will get enough goals to win the game," the

forward Brian Laudrup said. South Africa's reserve goalkeeper, Paul Evans, has flown home after damaging knee ligaments in training and has been replaced by Simon Gopane of Btoemfontein

nation Blatter waves red card at referees

The clampdown on foul play has so far failed to materialise. Instead, confusion reigns on the pitch. By Glenn Moore

PAUL DURKIN was only 10 yards coach, though the England view is away, but be was powerless to act. Instead he had to keep a diplomatic silence and settle for calming down an understandably irate Mario

Stade de la Beaujoire and the Brazilian manager was furning because Ronaldo was lying in a crumpled beap on the turf. Said Chiba, of Morocco, who had planted his studs into Ronaldo's groin, was walking quietly

Durkin, England's World Cup referee, was present as the fourth official and be must have been staggered when Nikolai Levnikov. the Russian referee, failed even to issue a yellow card for an assault which could have merited red.

Levnikov's restraint was typical of the first week's unexpected refereeing leniency and yesterday Sepp Blatter, the newly inaugurated president of Fifa and the man behind the anticipated crackdown, made his second criticism of the men in black this week.

"So far there has only been only one sending-off relating to the new rule," he said. "Just in the two matches on Tuesday there were two tackles from behind [punished by bookings] and one attack on a famous player which should have been punished [with a red card]."

Blatter added that the rules demanding that tackles from behind should result in a red card had been fully ratified and referees been instructed to follow it.

"A Fifa study showed that 60 per cent of injuries suffered by players are ankle or Achilles injuries which usually result from tackles from behind," he said, "Marco van Basten had to end his career when he was only 28 or 29 because be had been the victim of too many violent it wasn't. tackles. We don't want to see such a thing happen again."

that the refereeing has been much better than expected. It has certainly been very different from the plethora of red and yellow cards predicted. Before yesterday's matches This was Tuesday night in the there had been 62 bookings and three red cards in 18 matches, about the Premiership average.

Of the dismissals Anatoli Nankov of Bulgaria received two yellow cards (the second of which could have been a red) against Paraguay; the Netherlands' Patrick Kluivert was harshly sent off for pushing Lorenzo Stalens of Belgium in his chest with his elbow; and Ha Seokju of South Korea got a red for a terrible tackle from behind against

Many other players have gone unpunished. The issuing of cards apart, the overall standard of decision-making has been good, though Scotland, denied penalties against Brazil (Dunga's last-minute handball) and Norway (the foul on Gordon Durie was in the box) might disagree. Yet defenders are getting way with a lot. Alan Shearer was continually kicked, beld and pushed against Tunisia, whose three yellow cards were only reluctantly given out.

England's defenders, being defenders, unsurprisingly approve of the way things have gone. Teddy Sheringham, being on the receiving end, has a more balanced view.

"Paul Durkin put the fear of God into us when he refereed us at. Bisham before the tournament," Sheringham said, "He told us bow the refs would be really strict, but since the start of tournament the refereeing has been very lenient. The Tunisians got away with quite a lot, there were silly fouls when people were dragged back and you thought it would be a booking and

it a better World Cup tournament they can get away with it, that self-now been suspended for two games. just makes Fifa look ridiculous. Blatter's comments have been so far, the fact that players think restraint will cease. A stronger im- Stalens, who went down as if polesoed by Aimé Jacquet, the French they can get sent off for something plementation of the rule is required. axed clutching his face, a foot high-into action next Tuesday, at the him.



لكذا من ألاصل

silly is there, though we've not actually seen it.'

This is probably true but, as the finals progress, matches become It was a gentle

ert was foolish against Belgium, have been suspended instead. Since around the world with slow-motion

Austria. It could be a critical match but be did not deserve to be sent off. every match is being beamed in Group B. Like the players, his ogress in the tourna "I think the fear factor has made more important and defenders think not a jaw-breaking assault. He has replays, ignoring the video evidence in the balance. Unlike them, there Durkin, meanwhile, finally gets match unsure what is expected of and Junior Baiano look slow and

Brazil eager to beat **Norway**

NORWAY'S HOPES that Brazil will take it easy for their World Cup Group A finale on Tuesday were firmly dashed by the Brazilian wingback Roberto Carlos yesterday.

Egil Olsen, Norway's coach, had thought that, with Brazil certain to top Scotland's group after Tuesday's 3-0 win over Morocco, they would take their foot off the pedal in Marseilles. "The Brazilian win means thet their match against us will no longer be important to the final standings in the group, as they have already won it," he said.

Defeat, though, is the furthest thing from Brazilian minds. In fact, revenge will be their theme after Brazīl's 4-2 loss to Norway in a friendly in Oslo last year.

"We're determined to win all three of our first-round matches," Roberto Carlos insisted. "It won't be a friendly match against Norway it'll be tough because Norway need to win to have any chance of quali-

Brazil's other wing-back Cafu feels that this Brazil team are en route to a record fifth World Cup, "We all want desperately to win the Cup and our performance last night demonstrated that," he said.

The Brazilians, though, are aware that they have won nothing yet and that pitfalls could lie ahead. "We still have another five matches to play if we want to win the title," the midfielder Leonardo said.

Brazil's coach, Mario Zagallo, bas a selection dilemma going into the match against Norway. With the defensive midfielder Cesar Sampaio suspended, he will be forced to make at least one change. He must also decide whether to give fringe players like Denilson and Edmundo the chance to start, or to keep his first-choice line-up. Doriva, who replaced Cesar Sam-

paio in the second half against Morocco, was less than impressive, so Zagallo may now plump for Emerson Ferriara, a late call-up for the miured Romario.

Edmundo looked woefully out of sorts when be came on late in the game, but the match had already been won and much of the urgency had evaporated from Brazil's at-

Zagallo would doubtless like to start with Denilson, but he is an attacking player in the mould of Rivaldo and Leonardo. "I don't need to make any quick decisions," he said. "I have a week to decide on whether

One concern for him must be his is a danger that he will go into the central defence, where both Aldair

France wary of a Saudi booby trap

SHAKESPEARE HAD it about right in Henry V: first, the capacity for the English to behave badly while touring abroad: second, the ability of the French to move instantly between despair and bombast and back again - although, in the tabloid age, this has equally become an English characteristic.

Last week the French media (the domain of the joyous mountain), headquarters of the French squad, into a kind of Chateau Despair. This week, after a simple victory 3-0 over a disappointing South Africa, some of the French journalists at the Centre Technique National du Football here are radiating a sense of high expectation: of qualification for the last 16 virtually assured; of an excellent French squad guaranteed to go far in the French World

Through all this, Aimé Jacquet, remains calm, undemonstrative, even mildly depressive. The manager of the France squad is a most haps why the nation, and the nation's French fans and French journalists un-French Frenchman; this is permedia most of all, have refused to warm to him. On the eve of tonight's game against the tough, but limited. Saudis in Group C, Jacquet, tall, slight, grey, priest-like and older than his 56 years refused to take anything for granted. Yes, a victory would almost certainly assure France of a place in the next round. No, the Saudis have httle that should scare the French.

this is a typical "match piège" or in a World Cup ticket fraud, judicial booby-trap match: the kind of match designed to give pride a fall. The It but almost certainly the same 11 pany, Gilles Favard, were remandwhich finished against South Africa would play with "confidence but also with caution", he said. In other words, do not expect a feast of goals

Coach Aimé Jacquet will maintain his cautious approach despite an impressive start. By John Lichfield in Clarefontaine

and then insult the team - and me - again if you do not get them. The French media demand not

turned the Domaine de Montjoie only victory but victory with style. In a sense, this is an admirable approach. But it is not one which fits easily with the character of Jacquet who, spiritually at least, should be the manager of a Yorkshire side in the Nationwide Third Division. His teams tend to play as he speaks: with great precision but without flamboyance; never ducking a challenge, but never elaborating.

What did he expect from his team for tonight's game? He wanted, he said, "more imagination in certain phases of play" but most of all he would be looking for the "principal, indispensable qualities" for success - "effort, effort and more effort".

The great remaining concern of remains goalscoring. The firstchoice defence - Lilian Thuram, Marcel Desailly, Laurent Blanc,

Bixente Lizarazu - is unbeaten in its last four outings. The midfield has an embarrass-

ment of choice. Zinedine Zidane, Didier Deschamps, Emmanuel Petit are the men in possession but Christian Karembeu and Patrick Vieira would the strengthen the heart of many of the 31 other teams. Up front, despite the three goals

against South Africa, the French remain far from terrifying. Two of the goals in Marseilles were own goals (one later awarded to Thierry Henry). The other was scored by Christophe Dugarry, the man the French media love to hate. Dugarry, once a prolific scorer for Bordeaux, had disastrous seasons with Milan and Barcelona before making a low-key return to Marseilles.

Before the South Africa game he had scored two goals in 21 matches over four years for France, a dismal toll for any striker. Jacquet's persistence in picking him, ahead of sup-

Arrests in ticket probe

THE MANAGING director of the keting partner faces legal investigation for his possible involvement

Marc Loison of ISL France and a consultant working for his coma Paris judge who could decide to charge them, the sources added.

which markets all Fifa events in-French affiliate of Fifa's official mar-cluding the World Cup, denied any wrongdoing, saying ISL France was an independent company in which it only had a minority, non-executive, shareholding.

Favard was arrested on Tuesday at his home in Rueil-Malmaison, just outside Paris, where officers found a large sum of money and 100 World Cup tickets, ISL Worldwide said it was considering legal action against The Swiss-based ISL Worldwide, its French affiliate.



Media focus: Bixente Lizarazu

posedly more inspired and younger players, such as Nicolas Anelka and David Trézéguet, is the main source of contention with the press.

It is typical of Jacquet, they say, to persist with a failed, hard-working player like Dugarry while exchiding the talents of David Ginola and, before him, Eric Cantona. Dugarry's furious, media-directed joy at scoring, after coming on as a sub, was one of the highlights of the South African game.

Stéphane Guivarc'h and Trézéguet have only just recovered from slight injuries. This has not prevented Trézéguet - the 20-year-old who scored the thunderbolt goal for membering that day in Mexico. Monaco which put Manchester United out of the European Cup - from complaining to the media that be should be in the starting line-up.

Challenged to comment yesterday, Jacquet risked raising the spirits of the international footballing dead. "Talk is all very well," he said. "But players must deliver on the pitch. We've had a lot of cases like that. People who speak a great deal off the pitch but on the pitch, in international games, don't do very

Saint insufferable as Scots go to wire

WHILE THE events in Marseilles will only serve to increase Scotland's desire for independence from thuggish England - was Hadrian's Wall actually built to protect them from us? progress through to the second round for the first time remains a more immediate priority.

Act Two of their latest drama was all ITV's, as they had both Scotland's game against Norway and Brazil playing Morocco. But their executives should have known that Scotland, as in the past, will always extend their agony to the final mo-ments of the last game, and now BBC have been handed that grand finale for next Tuesday evening.

However the likelihood that ITV were merely setting up a big audi-ence for the opposition, didn't prevent them giving the game in Bordeaux the "Full Metal Jock" treatment, bringing in Alex Fergu-son who was acting national manager in 1986. On that occasion a He is likely to start tonight. goalless draw against 10-man Uruguay had finally plunged the dirk into their baggis. "It's this culture we have, to make life difficult for ourselves," Ferguson growled as if re-

Up in the commentary box Brian Moore had been billeted with Ian St John, whose playing career had spanned a perverse period in foothall history when Scotland had great players - himself, Law, Baxter, Greig, Johnstone - but no World Cun qualification. Now equally perversely a distinctly modest squad was on the threshold of great achievement. Not surprisingly, St John was a bundle of neurotic anxiety throughout, abandoning all premuch." Who can he have been think-tence to neutrality and clucking just ing of? Here are some clues. One is like Janet the housekeeper in Dr appearing in shampoo commercials Finloy's Casebook. "We need a goal. and commenting on matches for TV; we are dominating the game!" St

STAN HEY

VIEW FROM THE **ARMCHAIR**



sumably been reminded by Craig Brown that they were up against a mob of players from the English Premiership. Moore was keen to nail his

sporran to the mast too, but his support for the Scots didn't quite extend to identifying the players. He couldn't tell us who had wasted a great headed chance - it was Christian Dailly - or at one point distin-guish between Tommy Boyd the left-back and Gordon Durie a centre-forward. In the second half be made a reference to Scotland's opponents being Denmark. A trip to the French equivalent of "Vision Express" surely beckons.

had been waiting for arrived quickly in the second half as a sweeping move saw Norway score with a header by Flo. Moore was on safer territory bere because there were two Flos in the Norwegian forward line to choose from. "This is a borror story for Scotland!" St John exclaimed, as though narrating the opening scenes of Macbeth, and indeed the toil and trouble were only just beginning.

"What do you ye think ye are doing, Tommy Boyd?" St John bellowed as the full-back rolled a pass straight to a red shirt, and his commentary became the equivalent of tics of Driss Benzekri. So for once the other is about to appear in a John shouted as Scotland poured for a touchline rant. "Dailly's just got to in Scotland's World Cup history the movie co-starting with a monkey. ward in the first half, having preget a cross in with his left foot," was dodgy keeper will be at the other end.

another piece of The Saint's tactical advice, and when Dailly obliged he promptly sliced into the Tartan Army. But it all came good in the end thanks to the skills Craig Burley had learned during his 10 years at Chelsea. And it became even better for the Scots later when Brazil strolled past Morocco, though not before Chiba had introduced a new method of stopping Ronaldo entitled "The wedding tackle".

Commentators Clive Tyldesley and Kevin Keegan were ahle to sleepwalk through the match. "He's come back from the dead," Keegan said about Dunga - that's the Brazilian midfield player not Keegan's The moment that all England fans scriptwriter - while one comment evoked the days of Graham Taylor. "One of his strengths is not heading," Keegan observed of a Moroccan. One of Kevin's is not talking.

The two results left Scotland poised for a triumph or a travesty .next week. "We are the underdogs," Colin Hendry insisted to Gary Lineker over on the BBC, trying but failing to put all the pressure back on Morocco. Over the next five days the Scots will have nightmares featuring such monsters as Iran, Peru and Costa Rica. Alan Hansen will be donning his black suit but at least he has had the chance to observe the anEngland: United's playmaker still getting over sadness of being left out as four of his team-mates nurse injuries

Beckham's quiet depth of character

By GLENN MOORE in La Baule

EVEN BEING confronted by a journalist in a sarong did not faze David Beckham yesterday, hut then he's had rather more important things on his mind recently than imitators of his fashion sense.

Beckham is still coming to terms with the impact - and implications - of his omission from the England team that opened the World Cup on Monday. Having been the only player to start in all eight World Cup qualifying matches, it has dawned on him that he may not play at all in the finals.

"It's crossed my mind that when I played in those games Darren Anderton was not available. Darren is a good player and he did well on Monday. There could be another six games, but if the team keep winning I might not get in."

Beckham, like the other omitted players, was told before training in a team meeting on Saturday. "It was hard," he said. "I tried to hide my disappointment, but it hurt, My stomach turned over and over. It was very difficult to get involved in the training session afterwards.

"I'm still getting over it, hut it's not the end of the world, I've been dropped before by Manchester United and they are one of the higgest teams in the

"I've spoken to my mum and dad but it's down to me - I could have gone round with my head down and sulked like a few people suggested I would, but I haven't. I'm a determined person anyway, but I've been trying extra hard in training."

coach, who said: "There is no way he will not be involved. He has too much talent not to be.

"He was very disappointed, but Glenn and I have both spoken to him, be has taken his disappointment on the chin and has got on with it. His attitude has been first class, he's shown an extra edge in training. He wants to play, but he understands the situation."

Talking to Beckham yesterday, it was not entirely clear that he did understand, Having been a regular, he was now a reserve. He had spoken to Hoddle, asked certain questions and been given answers including a promise that he would get his chance. But he was still unsure what he had

"I've had a few days to think about it and I'm not sure what went wrong. When I spoke to the manager I was still a bit gutted and he didn't really give me

It was not because of his failure to score at international level. Nor, he was sure, was it because he spent Friday with his girlfriend, Victoria, or because he was photographed wearing a skirt - actually a sarong, or because Hoddle perceived him, as one journalist suggested, as "someone who needed knocking down".

"Most of the stuff surrounding me is caused by people taking pictures of me and wanting to. Just because I have a famous girlfriend doesn't mean my head is up in the clouds and no one can speak to me."

Indeed, Beckham is highprofile, but Hoddle would sureprefer him to be photoaphed having dinner with his fiancée than drinking with

dawn. Like all of Alex Ferguson's young players, Beckham is careful not to let his social life interfere with his foothall.

His main concern now is overcoming the boredom inherent in a football squad away - and far worse when you are not playing - and keeping match-fit so if be is recalled. against Romania on Monday or later, he can perform. But he is likely to be back at some stage.

Although Anderton appears favourite for the right wing back position, many pundits expect England to adopt a more adventurous line-up sooner or later, with David Batty making way for Beckham and either Beckham or Anderton playing

He has been told that Sir Geoff Hurst did not make the team until the quarter-finals, but admitted that was more of a surprise than a consolation. He added, though: "The manger has said that most teams finish the tournament with a different team to the one that

But he would have loved to have started in Marseilles. "It was as hard being on the bench, watching them all sing the national anthem, as when I was first told," he said, "But I still wanted us to win and play well. It's not in me to want the team to play hadly. I want us to go all And that was it except, un-

usually, be sought out another journalist and said, with quiet emphasis; "You don't know me as a person, so don't start judging me like you have been doing." It underlined that there is more depth to Beckham's personality than his public image suggests. He awaits the chance to prove the same about

Tenys anno one.

Nastro Azzurro would like to

wish all the teams in the World Cup

But wedlike to prention that we

know who we want to win. After all.

you have to look after Numero Uno.

good tortune and a stylish game.



David Beckham yesterday: I tried to hide my disappointment at being dropped, but it hurt'

Southgate in ankle injury worry

Chile

Mile I'm

Red 2 3

BY ADAM SZRETER in La Baule

GARETH SOUTHGATE WAS COMP of four England players to mass training here yesterday. The Aston Villa captain is the title to have turned his ankie during Tuesday's session at the Complex Sportif d'Escoublac and not expected to train again until Saturday. With the next game just two days later; against Romania in Toulouse, Southgate may be struggling to take his place in England's de-

Teddy Sheringham also missed training with a slight hamstring strain, while Alan Shearer and Tony Adams satis out for the second day running

with sore feet. The assistant coach, John Gorman, said: "Alan'a just had little aches and pains. It was a physical game [against Tunisia in Marseilles on Monday] and there's no point at this stage in

taking any chances. "They've got a good level of fitness now and I can assure you there's nothing serious whatsoever. It's a just a little pain in the foot with the hard ground and the studs digging in. That pitch was very dry a lot drier than some of the pitches we've been training on.

"Gareth's got a slight foot injury from training yesterday and Teddy's got a little problem with his hamstring. He trained esterday but there was a bit of tightness after the match the other day, but Teddy will be fine by tomorrow. We'll obviously have to keep an eye on them and maybe Gareth won't train until Saturday."

Meanwhile, Sheringham has apologised to his club, Manchester United, for his Portuguese night-club antics days before the World Cup squad flew off to France. "I sincerely hope it doesn't affect my future at Old Trafford," he said. "I waited a long time to get to United and I want to play there again next season - and for as long as I can." He apologised to the England camp before their de-

Calderwood suffered a broken bone in the back of one hand and dislocated the other during Tuesday's 1-1 draw with Norway. He flew back to Lon-don yesterday and will have immediate surgery but is unlikely

placed, but not outfield players. Craig Brown, the Scotland manager, described Calderwood's departure as a "setback" but he has ample cover in Matt Elliott and David Weir.

Scotland will also be without Darren Jackson next week, the Celtic utility player having incurred a suspension for his second hooking. Even so, Brown remains satisfied with his team's showing so far, if con-cerned about the lack of a cut-

ting edge.
The last Scotland forward to
score from open play in the finals was Joe Jordan, against the Soviet Union in 1982. "So far we've played well twice but definitely lacked the killer touch," Brown said. "We should have been two up before Norway scored and enjoying a galaday. It's a rarefied atmosphere

re-grouped amid the rustic charms of the Rhône Valley yesterday, still wondering how they failed to beat Norway. Yet their superiority has encouraged the heady belief that 1998 could prove a vintage year in their World Cup history.

So many campaigns have withered on the vine that no one, least of all Brown, is taking for granted the win over Morocco that ought to guarantee their advance. But, amazingly, Craig Burley's equaliser in the Stade Lescure, allied to the mauling of Morocco's goal difference by Brazil, has put them in the position where they could go through with two points.

There is another, even more bizarre scenario, whereby Scotland win at St-Etienne and are still eliminated, although that would require a Norwegian tri-umph over Brazil. With the world champions keen to avenge a 4-2 defeat in Oslo 13 months ago, such an outcome

appears improbable.

Meanwhile, Brown has the luxury of six days in which to formulate his plans for the Moroccans. It will be surprising in-

Henning Berg exemplified a surprising disparity between the teams in Bordeaux. Berg's sluggishness in the face of his Derby counterpart's surges suggested Egil Olsen's side may have peaked in their warm-up games.

Norway arrived in France with Europe's best record over the past 18 months. However as in the United States four years earlier, they had difficulty in asserting a physically punishing game plan in a competitive en-

dividuals at his disposal; Scotland, among others, would love a striker like Tore Andre Flo, who is tall and skilful like Duncan Ferguson but hrings none

of the associated problems. But their skills are subjugated. to a one-dimensional system based on a route-one game. . . Norway nevertheless, retain

an outside chance of going forward. Therein lay one of the anomalies of Bordeaux. Perhaps only the Tartan Army. could rejoice in a draw with such more than 10,000 Scots in the City. They took delight, against the back-drop of reports about supporters, in demonstrating of the EU lager lake does not preclude mixing preclude mixing fraternally with so-called rival fans.

In the local Sud Ouest newspaper, a story detailing the singing, drinking and dancing took its headline from a comment by a reveller from Edinhurgh: "It's not war, it's football." A huge front-page photo of Burley in his moment of glory, grinning toothlessly, unpromise of further celebrations



Not what you'd expect from a computer magazine!

THE GLOBAL GAME

THE WORLD CUP AROUND THE WORLD

"It was exhilarating, but as the evening sun came out and lit up the little ground like a village theatre, Scotland's best may not have been enough. To paraphrase Sir Elton John, the Scots are still standing. But their best chance of winning a match in France may already have gone." "The Scotsman" on Scotland's 1-1 draw

"We can't tackle the World Cup. For me it's almost a bit embarrassing. I've been saying to the media around the least reach the last 16. We've not been good." Rune Brat-seth, former Norway captain, writing in "Verdens Gang" newspaper, Oslo.

Compiled by Rupert Metcalf

Teronis Nastro Francio. Italys Nuprero Vino Feer.

Group A

Tue 23 June

Tue 23 June

1 Brazil....

2 Norway ..

4 Morocco..

Yesterday

1 Chile

Today

Today

2 Austria.

3 Italy

4 Cameroon

Group C

Wed 24 June

Wed 24 June

4 S Africa .

Tomorrow

1 Nigeria

4 Spain

Group E

Sat 20 June

Sat 20 June

Thu 25 June

Thu 25 Jane

2 Belgium

4 S Korea1

3 Netherlands

Group F

Sun 21 June

Thu 25 June

Thu 25 Jane

1 Germany1

2 Yugoslavia1

4 USA1

1 Mexico

Wed 24 June

Wed 24 June

2 Bulgaria1

3 Paraguay1

Group D

2 Denmark1

3 S Arabia1

Tue 23 June

Tue 23 June

3 Scotland ..

Group B

(5t Denis)

(Bordeaux)

Pts GD

(Toulouse)

Pts GD

(Lens)

(Marse((les)

(Toulouse, 16,30)

(5t-Denis, 20.00)

(Lyons, 15.00)

3 +3

3

(Montpelller)

(Paris, 16.30)

(Lens. 20.00)

3

Pts GD

(Lyons)

(St Denis)

(Bordeaux, 16.30)

(5t Etlenne, 15.00)

(Paris, 15.00)

3

(St Etienne)

(Lens. 13.30)

(Lyons, 20.00)

(Nantes, 20.00)

Pts

3

3 +1

+2

(Montpellier, 20.00)

Pts GD

+2

(St Ecenne, 20.00)

(Tou(ouse 20.00)

(Nantes)

+1

0

(5t Etienne)

(Montpellier, 20.00)

(St-Denis, 15.00)

(Nantes, 15.00)

6

(Nantes)

(Montpellier)

(St Etienne, 20.00)

(Marseilles, 20.00)

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Brazil 2 Scotland 1

Morocco 2 Norway 2

Scotland 1 Norway

Brazil 3 Morocco 0

Scotland v Morocco

D

Brazil v Norway

Italy 2 Chile 2 Cameroon 1 Austria 1

Chile 1 Austria 1

Italy v Cameroon

Chile v Cameroon

Saud(Arabia 0 Denmark 1

France 3 South Africa 0

South Africa v Denmark

South Africa v Saudi Arabia

D

0 0

Paraguay O Bulgaria O

5pain 2 Nigeria 3

Nigeria v Bulgaria

Spaln v Paraguay

Spain v Bulgaria

0

0

Nigeria v Paraguay

D

0 0

South Korea 1 Mexico 3

Netherlands v S Korea

Netherlands v Mexico

Belglum v South Korea

D

0 0

Yugoslavia 1 Iran 0

Germany v Yugoslavia

0 0

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Germany 2 USA 0

USA v Iran

Germany v (ran

0

USA v Yugoslavia

1. 0

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0

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0 0

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Belgium v Mexico

W

Netherlands 0 Belglum 0

0

3 2

0

France v Saudi Arabia

France v Denmark

Italy v Austria

THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO FRANCE 98

YESTERDAY'S AFTERNOON MATCH

Chile 1 Austria 1

GROUP B: STADE GEOFFROY-GUICHARD, ST ETIENNE, ATTENDANCE:30,392 Goal: Salas 70 Yellow cards: 4 (Villarroel, Estay, Salas, Zamorano). Red cards: 0

Corners: 3 Offside: 7 Free-kicks (against): 15 Coach: Nelson Acosta

Goal: Vastic 90 Yellow cards: 1 (Schöttel) Red cards: 0 Corners: 2 Offside: 1 Free-kicks (against): 26 Coach: Herbert Prohaska

Running commentary

2 min: Polster shrewdiy angles pass through S1 min: Herzog sets up Austria's best move defence. Chile retrieve situation. 6 min: Salas floats a cross to the centre. Zamorano climbs above defenders. Insufficient

heading power. 11 min: Cool, accurate interception on Vil-

larroel by Schöttel. 15 min: Yellow card Villarroel (hard decision

.after solid tackle on Haas). 21 min: Deep cross from Rojas is well met on Mählich. by Zamorano. Well intentioned header goes 61 min: Salas's low centre intercepted by Konsolidly wide (representative of game at that

24 min: Yellow card Schöttel (clumsy tackle on Salas). 37 min: Austria's first strong shot, by Haas,

crashes into Fuentes. 41 min: Haas forward again, neatly sidesteps defender. Colourful touch in monochrome

game. 45 min: Austria bring in Herzog to give more experience to midfield. 47 min: Yellow card Estay.

but Poister's cross falls between players. Schopp not ready for chance. Returns to defend and gets away with ball hitting arm. S2 mln: Villarroel's positive, on target shot well deflected by Konsel. 57 min: Yellow card Salas (not retreating at

free-kick). S8 min: Salas lucky to get away with kick

sel at feet of Zamorano as Chile threaten. 69 min: Over-the-line controversy as Zamorano heads down Sierra's free-kick. Konsel blocks well but Salas follows up. Keeper blocks again. Drags ball a fraction over line.

74 min: Yellow card Zamorano (arguing over offside decision). 87 min: Hingertip save from Zamorano's firsttime shot emphasises Chile's superlority. 90 min: Vastic (substitute) picks up ball on edge of area, shoots bender perfectly beyond

TUESDAY'S LATE MATCH

Brazil 3 Morocco 0

GROUP A: STADE DE LA BEAUJOIRE, NANTES. ATTENDANCE: 33,266

Goals: 0

Goal: Ronaldo 9, Rivaldo 45, Bebeto 50 **Vellow cards:** 2 (C Sampaio, J Baiano) Red cards: 0 Corners: 4

Offside: 4

Coach: Mario Zagallo

Free-kicks (against): 11 .

Red cards: 0 Corners: 3 Offside: 2 Free-kicks (against): 27 Coach: Henri Michel

Yellow cards: 2 (Hadda, Chiba)

Tapia for equaliser.

Running commentary

2 min: Leonardo denied early goal. Margin- 47 min: Quiet Bebeto finally gets forward

6 min: Cafu charges down right edge to give first fright to Morocco.

9 min: Ronaldo beats offside trap. Strikes his first goal, Ball comes from behind. No problem for the young maestro, 17 min: Ronaldo painfully kicked on thigh

by Chiba (inexplicably, no card). Moroccan corner.

25 min: Ronaldo quickly behind defence. Difficult shooting chance:

27 min: Cafu S0-yard run down right-side. 31 min: Yellow card Hadda (foul on Cafu). becomes knock-out pass. 35 min: Yellow card Cesar-Sampaio (brought 85 min: Amzine fails to disturb Medican wave down Pladji). Cesar Sampalo misses next game. with shot into crowd.

lide. Rivaldo easily puts in second.

to head into hands of Benzerki.

50 min: Astonishing sleight of foot gets Ronaldo through in to the penalty area. Pass to Bebeto, who comfortably slides in Brazil's. third.

55 min: Ronaldo puts Bebeto through again. -as Morocco-stand and stare -but Bebeto is unable to capitalise and Morocco escape. 24 min: Brazilian defence unhappy against 64 min: Yellow card Chiba (foul not as ruthless as one on Ronaldo)..

66 min: Rivaldo crosses to Ronaldo who proves human by missing shot.

80 min: Brazil ease down to third gear. 28 min: First shot by Roberto Carlos, wide. 84 min: Taffarel punches clear - even that

that match, is now a top-priced

S-1 favourite from 11-2 with

the Tote to win the Golden

Boot Award for top goalscor-

FRANCE V S. ARABIA

Second Arabba 11-1 10-1 10-1 11-1 11-1

FIRST GOALSCORER

Player C H L S T DjorksetT (F) 9-2 7-2 5-1 5-1 3-1

Ochumc's (F) 5-1 10-3 4-1 9-2 9-2

Henry (F) 5-1 9-2 4-1 9-2 9-2

Dréségues (F) 84 9-2 5-4 9-2 9-2

Degarry (F) 11-2 9-2 4-1 6-1 6-1

Diamète (F) | 16-1 12-1 14-1 10-1 10-1

Carcabon (F) 25-1 16-1 14-1 11-1 11-1

Wester (F) 25-1 12-1 16-1 25-1 25-1

Deschamps (F) 25-1 12-1 33-1 -28-1 28-1

CORRECT SCORE

France 1-0 5-1 6-1 7-1 15-2 15-2

France 5-6 7-1 7-1 8-1 7-1 7-1

Praece 4-0 7-1 8-1 8-1 9-1 9-1

France 4-1 15-1 18-1 18-1 10-1 18-1

France 8-1 | 11-1 | 9-1 | 11-1 | 9-1 | 9-1

France 2-1 14-1 12-1 12-1 12-1 12-1

France 5-0 10-1 -14-1 14-1 14-1 14-1

France 8-1 16-1 16-1 15-1 18-1

SArable 1-0 16-1 16-1 20-1 16-1 16-1

S Arabba 2-1 40-1 33-1 50-1 40-1 40-1

EDE (P) 5-1 7-1 6-1 5-1 5-1

H 54 61 81 84

11-1 184 12-1 12-1 12-1

C H L S 7

84 7-1 6-1 7-1 7-1

5-1 5-1 7-1 15-2 15-2

5-1 8-1 8-1 7-1 7-1

33-1 25-1 33-1 20-1 20-1

CHLST

1-6 1-5 1-5 1-5 1-6

9-2 41 41 41 41

(45 min: Caru down wing again, turns ball in- 86 min: Yellow card Junior Baiano (foul on Hadda).

WORLD CUP BETTING

THEY MADE heavy weather of beating Saudi Arabia 1-0 but Denmark can step up on that form by beating South Africa (possibly 2-0) in Toulouse this afternoon.

S. AFRICA V DENMARK

10. 20. 6

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agricus —; A

34

\$-4.4.

Aletica	C	H	1	_5						
Demoark	4-5	4-6	4-5	5-6	5-6					
Draw	11-6	9.4	2-1	11-5	11-5					
S. Africa	3-1	7-2	10-3	11-4	11-4					
	FIRST GOALSCORER									
Player		H		5						
& Leadrop (D)	11-2	5-1	5-1	11-2	11-2					
Sand (D)	11-2	6-1	6-1	13-2	13-2					
Moller (D)	13-2	6-1	74	74	74					
Molecer (D)	· 74	6-1	74	74	ЪН,					
McCurthy (S)	7-1	15-2	7-1	7-1	7-1					
E Landrup (D)	8-1	8-1	6-1	원	8-1					
Masinga (5)	7-1	8-1	7-1	6-1	<u>B-1</u>					
Bartlett (5)	6-1	10-1	7-1	8-1	8-1					
Mickey (D)	10-1	12-1	12-1	12-1	12-1					
Augustine (S)	16-1	11:1	25-1	16-1	16-1					
Rieper (D)	20-1	33-1	25-1	20-1	20-1					
least 65	441	464	48-1	25-1	25-1					

CORRECT SCORE C B L S Dermark 1-0 5-1 8-1 5-1 8-1 5-1 11-2 | 11-2 | 5-1 | 11-2 | 11-2 5-1 5-1 11-2 11-2 11-2 Democrat 2-0 6-1 13-2 7-1 13-2 13-2 Demark 2-1 7-1 7-1 15-2 15-2 South Africa I-8 7-1 8-1 6-1 7-1 7-1 Denmark 3-0 12-1 11-1 18-1 14-1 14-1 Descript 8-1 12-1 12-1 18-7 12-1 12-1 outh Africa 2-1 14-1 15-1 14-1 12-1 12-1 Scoots Africa 2-0 18-1 16-1 15-1 14-1 14-1 · 16-1 18-1 20-1. 16-1 16-1 Description 3-2 33-1 33-1 28-1 33-1 33-1 Descript 4-1 33-1 33-1 40-1 28-1 28-1 Demark 4-0 40-1 33-1 50-1 33-1 33-1

South Africa 3-0 50-1 50-1 56-1 40-1 40-1

Brian Laudrup failed to make much of an Impression In their first match, but still appeals as the best bet for first goalscorer. South Africa looked er in the tournament. moderate in going down 3-0 to the host nation last week and is is hard to see them making much Impression against Denmark, who are fancied to take the runners-up berth In

Group C. France should overwhelm Saudi Arabia (maybe 3-0) in St Denis this evening. Comfortable winners of their first game, France might find that Saudi Arabia pose a few more problems but the host nation are expected to come on as a unit from that first match and should register another easy win. Dugarry (ooks a solid bet to be the first goalscorer.

Despite failing to beat Norway. Scotland are 8-13 with Ladbrokes to qualify for the knock-out stages. Brazil were cut from 11-4

to 5-2 to win the tournament outright after their facile 3-0 success over Morocco while Ronaldo, who did us a favour by scoring the opening goal in

1	GRO	UP	C		
Maring	C	H	Ł	5	
France	1-5	1-6	2-9	1-7	1-7
Denmark	10-3	7-2	3-1	7-2	7-2
S. Africa	22-1	33-I	25-1	66-1	96-1
Sand Arabia				86-1	
C Coral, H William	m Hill. L	Ladbro	15 , S	unic,	f Type
	_				

SPREAD BETTING

THERE WAS little to suggest in ergy than that required to their match against France nets billowing against Denmark have found themselves in price on the "Sheikh and Vac" today. Bafana Bafana had just means Barthez and Djorkaeff today. Darana Darana has pare favourites in Sporting's It's an Impossible market to two shots, neither on target. against the hosts. That makes IG's quote of 2.4-2.9 for their a must-sell. It is so out of sync with sportings opinion have no problem with his part need shaking up but this will 1.3-2.0 - that a buy with of the equation, so it's up to hardly put the freshness back. made by exerting no more en- Djorkaeff to keep his end up.

make two phone calls. The cushy group France "End to End Index" which pairs a goalkeeper with an outfield player and rewards a their own area and the number point. Barthez should have on. Your betting strategy may

Sporting clients have a chance to prove themselves shameless, getting a better bia hitting the bar, headers in

TEAM OF SArable 2-0 50-1 50-1 186-1 50-1 50-1 '100 CLUB' WORLD CUP XI (100 CAPS OR MORE)

Pater Schmalchel (Denmark) Claudio Suarez (Mexico) Jürgen Kohler (Germany) Marcelo Balboa (USA) Michael Laudrup (Denmark)

Cobi Jones (USA) Carlos Valderrama (Colombia) Gheorghe Hagi (Romania)

ALMOST CENTURION SUBS (90-100) Taffarel (Brazil) Khalid Al-Muraalid (Saudi Arabia) Ahmad Madani (Saudi Arabia) t the freshness back. | Paolo Maldini (taly)
| Richard Wethereii | Anton Poister (Austria)

TODAY'S MATCHES

South Africa v Denmark

	AUGUSTINE	
	NYATHI FORTUNE	HELVEG RIEPER
	JACKSON McCARTHY	B LAUDRUP HOGH
VONK	MOSHOEU	WIEGHORST SCHMEICHEI
VONK		WIEGHORST SCHMEICHEI SAND COLDING
VONK		ALL LIPS

PROBABLE

TEAMS

TEAM NEWS

SOUTH AFRICA

21 Pierre issa... 22 Paul Evans .

WEATHER: Some cloud, chance of showers. Temperature: 22C

M LAUDRUP

المكذا عن ألاصل

SOUTH AFRICA: Benedict McCarthy h nounced himself fit a covering from an ankl but there are still ac over whether fellow i Phil Masinga will star DENMARK: No new problems and a full si select from, An uncl line-up possible.

DENMARK

REFEREE: J J TORO RENDON (COLOMBIA)
TV: LIVE: ITV 4.15

France v Saudi Arabia

GROUP C: STADE DE FRANCE, ST DENIS, PARIS. KICK-OFF 20,00 BST

azzakazo	
DJORKAEFF	AL-SHAHRANI AL-JAHNI
DESAILEY	AMON
DUGARR	Y AL-KHLANNI
ZIDANE	S.AL-OWAIRAN
BARTHEZ	AL-DAYE
	AL-JABER ZEBRAMAWI
BLANC PETIT	
BLANC HENRY	K.AL-OWAIRAN
The second second	
DESCHAMPS	
THE PARTY DAY	SOLAIMANI
THURAM	BABLE SOLAIMANI
	BASE

WEATHER: Partly cloudy with a chance of showers later. Temperature, 190

Į	
	1 Bernard LamaWest Ham
ł	2 Vincent CandelaRoma
١	3 Bliente LizarazuBayern Munich
ı	A Patrick VielraArsenal 5 Laurent BlancMarseilles
ı	5 Laurent BlancMarseilles
ı	6 Yourl DjorkaeffInternazionale
ł	7 Didier DeschampsJuventus
ł	8 Marcel DesaillyMilan
ı	9 Stéphane Gulvarc'hAuxerre
ı	10 Zinedine ZidaneJuventus
ı	
ı	11 Robert PirésMetz
ı	12 Thlerry HenryMonaco
ı	13 Bernard DiomedeAuserre
1	14 Alain BoghossianSampdoria
ľ	15 Lilian ThuramParma
	16 Fablen Barthez
ı	17 Emmanuel PetitArsenal
	18 Franck Leboeuf
1	19 Christian Karembeu Real Madrid
	20 David TrézéguetMonaco
ı	21 Christophe DugarryMarseilles
	22 Lionel CharbonnierAuxerre
	Coach: Akné Jacquet
П	CONCIL MILE SACCIACE

THREE GOALS

TWO GOALS

ONE GOAL

Group A

Marcelo Salas (Chile)

Group E Luis Hernandez |Mexico

TEAM NEWS

FRANCE: First-choice striker · Stéphane Guivarc'h is still carrying the injury that led to his substitution against South Africa. His replacement, Christophe Dugarry, is likely to start in his place. SAUDI ARABIA: No injury problems and likely to field

an unchanged starting

21 Hussein Al-SadiqAl-Qadisiya 22 Tisir Al-AntaifAl-Ettifa Coach: Carlos Alberto Parreira GOALSCORERS

Group B Christian Vieri (Italy) Roberto Baggio (Italy) Pierre Njanka (Cameroon) Toni Poister (Austria) Group C arc Rieper (Denmark)

Christophe Degarry (France Group D

Bebeto |Brazil)
Cesar Sampalo (Brazil)
Rivaldo (Brazil
Ronaldo (Brazil)
John Collins (Scotland)
Craig Burley (Scotland) Raul (Spain) Moustafa Hadji (Morocco) Abdeljiši Hadda (Morocco)

Garba Lawai |Nigeria| Sunday Olisch (Nigeria)

Group H Mario Stanic (Croatia) Robert Prosinecki (Croatia) Davor Suker (Croatia) Robbie Earle (Jamaica)

Group F

Group G

Sol Campbell (England) v Tun
Jose Clayton (Tunisla) v Eng
Kars Godhbame (Tunisla) v Eng
Kars Godhbame (Tunisla) v Eng
Jose Santa (Colombia) v Rom
Iulian Hilpeson (Romania) v Col
Dorinel Musicanau (Romania) v Col
Dom Petreson (Romania) v Col
Dom Petreson (Romania) v Col

Group H Masami Dara (Japan) v Arg Elsuke Nakanishi (Japan) v Arg

Takashi Hirano (Japan) v Arg Zwonimir Soldo (Croatia) v Jam

Dario Simić (Croatia) v Jam Deon Burton (Jamaica) v Croa

STATISTICS OF THE DAY

THE NUMBER of defeats suf-fered by Morocco in their last

9 THE NUMBER of years that the 19-year-old Yugoslavian striker,

six games in World Cup finals.

The odd one out was last week's draw with Norway

Deian Stankovic, will be pied to

paid more than £1m per season

THE NUMBER of clean sheets

last 17 matches in World Cup

eight World Cup finals. They

have won just four matches,

L that Brazil have kept in their

22 THE NUMBER of games that Scotland have played so far in

Jürgen Klinsmann (Germany) Andreas Möller (Germany)

Group G Nan Shearer (England)

OWN GOALS Tommy Boyd (Scotland) Youssel Chippe (Morocco, Plerre Issa (South Africa)

RED AND YELLOW CARDS

RED CARDS Group E Ha Seok-ju (South Korea) v Mex Patrick Kluiwert (Netherlands) v Bei

Group II Anatoli Nankov (Bulgaria) v Pac YELLOW CARDS

Group A
Cesar Sampaio (2) (Brazil) v Sco; v Mor.
Misses next motch.
Aldair (Brazil) v Sco
Junior Balano (Brazil) v Mor
Darren Jackson (2) (Scotland) v Bra; v
Mor. Misses next motch. mor. Misses next motor.
Gordon Durie (Scotland) v Mor
Said Chiba (Morocco) v Nor
Abdeljilli Hadda (Morocco) v Bra
Said Chiba (Morpco) v Bra Kjetii Rekdai (Norway) v Sco Heasing Berg (Norway) v Sco

Group B
Angelo Di Livio (Izaly) v Chile
Fablo Camavaro (Izaly) v Chile
Nelson Parraguez (Chile) v it
Clarence Acons [Chile] v it

Francisco Rojas (Chile) v it Motses Villarroel (Chile) v Aut Febtan Estay (Chile) v Aut Marcelo Salas (Chile) v Aut Ivan Zamoorano (Chile) v Aut Samisel Iposa (Cameroon) v Aut Auton Přeffer (Austrie) v Chile Peter Schöttel (Austrie) v Chile Group F
Zeljko Petrovic (Yugoslavia) v Iran
Dragan Seojkovic (Yugoslavia) v Iran
Jens Jeremies (Germany) v USA
Jens Hausen (Germany) v USA
Joerg Habusich (Germany) v USA
Frankle Hejdnik (USA) v Ger
Eddie Pope (USA) v Ger

Group C
Morten Wieghorst (Den) v S Arabia
Marc Rieper (Den) v S Arabia
Alian Nielsen (Den) v S Arabia
Rhalid Al-Munazilid (S Arabia) v De
Emmuned Petit (France) v SA
Zinedine Zidane (France) v SA
Willem Jackson (South Africa) v Fr

Group D

Miguel Benitez (Paraguay) v Bul
Anacoli Mankov (Bulgaria) v Par
Hristo Stoichkov (Bulgaria) v Par
Trifon Istanov (Bulgaria) v Par
Trifon Istanov (Bulgaria) v Par
Gelilerano Amor (Spain) v Nigeria
Miguel Angel Nadal (Spain) v Nigeria
Uche Oleschukuwa (Nigeria) v Sp

LOWS

Highest scoring match Spain 2 Nigeria 3

Lowest scoring matches Paraguay O Bulgaria O Netherlands O Belgium O Earliest goal 4 min – Cesar Sampaio, Brazil (v Sco) Latest goals 90 min - Anton Polster, Austria (v Cam)

90 min - Thierry Henry, France (v S Africa) 90 min - Mca Vastic, Austria (v Chile) Most cards in a match S - Paraguay v Bulgaria | 1 red, 4 yellow/ S - Chile v Italy | 5 yellow/ S - Germany v USA | 5 yellow/ S - Chile v Austría (5 yellow)

1 – Morocco v Norway (1 yellow) Highest Attendance 80,000 - Brazil v Scotland (St Denis) 27,650 - Paraguay v Bulgarla (Montpelfer)

SAUDI ARABIA

REFERENCE A B CARTER (MEXICO)

	1 Mohammed Al-Daye	Al-Tae
	2 Mohammed AJ-Jahni .	AJ-Ahll
	3 Mohammed Al-Khlalv	
	4 Abdullah Zebramawi.	
	S Ahmed Madani	
	6 Fuad Amin	
	7 Ibrahim Al-Shahrani	Al-Ahll
	8 Obeld Al-Dossari	
	9 Sami Al-Jaber	
	10 Saveed Al-Owalran	
	11 Fahad Al-Mehallel	AI-5habab
	12 Ibrahim Al-Harbi	Al-Nassr
•	13 Hussain Solaimani .	Al-Ahli
	14 Khalld Al-Muwalid .	
	15 Yousset Al-Thynlyan	
	16 Khamis Al-Owairan	Al-Hilal
	17 Ahmed Al-Dossarl	
	18 Nawaf Al-Temiyat	
	19 Abdul Aziz Al-Ganoe	abl AT Nasco
	20 Hamzah Saleh	VI-VIII

Group G

Oloup -								
_	E	ngland 2	Tür	nisia O			(Marso	eilG
	R	omania 1	Co	lombia ()		(L	yor
Mon 22 June	C	olombia v	Tu	nisia	(1	Montpe	llier, 1	6.3
Mon 22 June	R	omania v	En,	gland	•	(Toulo	use, 2	0.0
Fri 26 June	R	omania v	Tur	nisia		(St De	enis, 20	0.0
Fri 26 June	C	olombia v	Er	ngland		(L	ens, 20	0.0
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	G
1 England	. 1	1	0	0	2	0	3	4
2 Romania	1	1	0	0.	1	Ο.	3	4
3 Colombia	. 1	0	0	1	0	1	0	

4 Tunisia 1 0 0 1 0 2

Group H

									
	· -	Arg	gentina	a 1 Jap	oan O			(Tould	ouse)
		Jar	naka 1	Croa	tia 3			. (Lens)
	Sat 20 June	Japan v Croatia					(Nantes, 13.30		
	Sun 21 June	Argentina v Jamaica					(Paris, 16.3)		
ı	Fri 26 June	Arg	Argentina v Croatia				Borde	eaux, 1	5.00)
	Fri 26 June	Japan v Jamaica				(1	Lyon, 15	5.00)	
		P	w	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD
	1 Croatia	1	1	0	0	3	1	3	+2
	2 Argentha	1	1	0	0	1	0	3	+1
	3 Japan	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	-1

4 Jamaica 1 0 0 1 1 3

■ THE top two teams in each group qualify for the second round. Qualification decided by (in order): Points, goal difference, number of goals scored, outcome of encounter between two sides, drawing lots. (If Scotland draw 1-1 with Morocco ond Norway lose 1-0 to Brazil, Scotland and Norway will tie on points. goal difference ond goals scored. Their gome was also a 1-1 drow and qualification will be decided by lots).

Second round

Sat 27 June Winner B v Runner-up A (Marseilles, 15.30) Sat 27 June Brazil v-Runner-up B (Paris, 20.00) Sun 28 June Winner C v Runner-up D (Lens. 15.30) Sun 28 June Winner D v Runner-up C (5t Denis, 20.00) Mon 29 June Winner F v Runner-up E (Montpellier, 15.30) Mon 29 June Winner E v Runner-up F (Toulouse, 20.00) Tue 30 June Winner G v Runner-up H (Bordeaux, 15.30) Tue 30 June Winner H v Runner-up G (St Etienne, 20,00)

Quarter-finals

Fri 3 July Marseilles winner v Lens winner (St-Denis, 15.30) Fri 3 July Paris v St Denis winner (Nantes, 20.00) Sat 4 July Toulouse Winner v 5t Etienne winner (Marseilles, 15.30) Sat 4 July Montpelller winner v Bordeaux winner (Lyons, 20.00)

Semi-finals the Italian side, Lazio, by his new contract. He will reportedly be

Tue 7 July Nantes winner v Marseilles winner (Marseilles, 20.00) Wied 8 July Paris St Denis winner v Lyons winner (St Denis, 20.00)

Third place play-off

Saturday 11 July

Final

including one in the last 10 | Sunday 12 July

(St Denis, 20.00)

(Paris, 20.00)

31

BECKHAM HIDES THE HURT P30 • ENGLAND WAIT ON STEWART P27

Chile chilled by fantastic Vastic

By Andrew Longmore at Stade Geoffroy-Guichard, St Etlenne

Salas 70 Austria

in l

Att: 30,392 Vastic 90

CHILE JUST cannot break their World Cup hoodoo. Within seconds of recording their first victory in the World Cup for 36 years, their first out of their home country since 1950, they conceded an equaliser in injury time to an Austrian side long on determination, desperately short of quality. Austria are the last-gasp specialists. They have now scored twice in injury time, the first to draw against Cameroon in the opening game of Group B, the second earning an equally fortuitous point against the fancied Chilians.

At the final whistle, Nelson Acosta, the Chile coach, stalked off down the tunnel waving a farewell fist to his players, while the Austrians bowed to their fans and breathed a sigh of relief. Out of jail twice in a week. They should have been heading home by now; Chile should be contemplating a place in the second round. But they only have themselves to blame.

For long periods, they dominated the Austrians without managing to find the right final pass at the end of some intricate mid-field patchwork. Just as their army of followers were starting to turn restless, Marcelo Salas - who else? - put them ahead. It was not a goal to match his Wembley beauty but it looked to be equally decisive. Austria, ponderous and workmanlike. had not looked capable of penetrating the Chile defence.

This morning, when they pick up the crumbs of comfort, Chile will still fancy their chances of progressing. Having been deprived of a deserved victory over Italy by poor refereeing, one moment of slackness cost them dear yesterday. As Austria launched one desperate final fling, the substitute Ivica Vastic worked a little time and space on the edge of the penalty area and curled a right-foot shot round the leaping Nelson Tapia Three quarters of the ground fell silent; the Austrian quarter, morose for most of the second half, sprung to life. Tapia fell to earth and beat the ground in frustration with his forehead. Whether Chile's morale can recover from a second blow is

open to question. A muddled match had exposed their pretentions anyway. The Austrians had done their homework. man-marking both dangermen, Ivan Zamorano and Salas, and posting the

Austria's goalkeeper, Michael Konsel, leaps in a vain attempt to keep out Chile's goal, scored by the partially hidden Marcelo Salas, in yesterday's 1-1 draw

Michael Larbel Review

of the back three to block Chile's midfield runs. On the left, the wing back, Francisco Rojas, so influential against Italy, was strangely subdued. Without his Salas and Zamorano were forced to forage for themselves, thereby unbalancing the attack and overcrowding the

half-time summed up the mood.

The stalemate suited the Austrians well, though the coach, Herbert Prohaska, signalled some aggressive intention by bringing on Andreas Herzog and Markus Schoop at halftime. Indeed, Austria could have

combative Roman Mahlich in front midfield. Zamarano's gesture of distaken the lead minutes into the secgust at his midfield on the stroke of ond half had not Schopp's control let Clarence Acuna on the byline, Jose him down badly five yards from goal. It was a rare foray. Moments later, Moises Villaroel had a rightfoot shot touched round the post by Michael Konsel, who also saved fractionally over the line. The brilliantly from a right foot shot by Chileans claimed the goal immedi-Zamorano. But with 20 minutes left, ately amid muted Austrian protest.

Salas struck. Mählich fouled Sierra swung in the free-kick, Zamorano leapt above the defence and though Konsel blocked the initial header Salas kneed the rebound

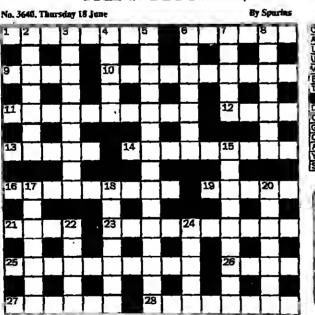
CHILE (3-4-1-2): Tapla (Universita Carolloa); Reyes (Colo Colo), Fuentes (Universidad de Chile), Margas (Universidad-Catolica): Villaroel (Wanderers), Acuña (Universidada de Chile), Parraguez (Universidada Catolica), Rojas (Universidada de Chile), Estay (Toluca), Zamorano (Institutes: Slerra (Colo Colo) for Estay, 57. Castaneda (Universidad Catolica) for VII-

MORSE

AUSTRIA (3-5-1-1): Konsel (Roma), Fleifer (Austria Vienna), Schöttel (Rapid Wenna), Feiersinger (Borussia Dominiard), Cerny (1860 Munich), Kuirkauer (Real Sociedad), Mahlich (Sturm Graz), Pfellerberger (Werder Bremen), Wed (Rapid Vienna); Haas (Sturm Graz); Polstelle (Koaln), Substitutes: Herzog (Bremen) for Juntamer 115 Armopa (Finan Bran) for Cerny 45: Vastic (Sturm Graz) for Haas 73.

Referee: G Ghandour (Egypt).

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



ACROSS Alternative to bread with

Auction to include theologian's seat (6) Cards with which one has to D3SS (4)

Opening pleasantry performing a useful service, in 11 Take Goliath for instance his inept forays around Is-

12 Relations mostly retreat (4) 13 Ship's role, to return carrying maiden (5)

14 Her post's relatively prob-16 Travellers' guidebook and

one battered trainer found in front of yard (9) 19 Despicable individuals about to infiltrate Special Boat Squadron (5)

21 Wading bird is found around British Isles (4) meat in for alfresco meal (8) 23 Opeo-air man exercises

dog (10) 25 Storehouse, one involved in repossession

26 A prohibition on backing a horse (4) Spotted Dick pinching half of trifle - that's rotten (6)

Tattered notice about the French political DOWN

Hide in foxhole at heroary (7)

Intermediary identified by Military Intelligence stupidly landed without money (9) is definitely wrong (5)

A hloomer lately evident in activity of the yellow press?

Well, operating's his thing Produced picture of doctor

with beard (5) Peculiar German song stands above the rest (3-4) Rising Assistant Secretary can't set about objective (9) Dramatic scene in which Greek character swallows

bleach, abandoning child 18 Came back to find salesman was deceitful (7) 20 Bold manner displayed by brother receiving a very

small promotion (7)

Clean head of coin in acid About to pen a song, mostly you'll need this (5)

Colombia send Asprilla packing

BY TREVOR HAYLETT

FAUSTINO ASPRILLA, a mesmerising footballer but a controversy always waiting to happen, is out of the World Cup after be criticised the Colombian coach and was dismissed from the squad.

The former Newcastle striker made a bitter outburst to a radio reporter after he was substituted five minutes from the end of Colombia's openinggame defeat by Romania. He also accused Hernan Dario Gomez of showing favouritism to other players.

The repercussions could have a positive outcome for England who will feel their chances of defeating Colombia in the final game in Group G will be enhanced without the hrilliant yet bafflingly inconsistent

Asprilla. The controversial figure, sold back to Italian club Parma last season by Kenny Dalglish, claimed that other players had become "untouchables" and that they had performed worse against Romania than he had. The attack drew an angry response from Gomez who declared that his star player should go home if he was that

When the temperamental 28-year-old failed to turn up for yesterday's training session at La Tour Du Pin in eastern France, Gomez said Asprilla's World Cup was over "We didn't throw him out, the decision was his," said the coach who

a man short in his squad. "If you don't obey the rules,

you're out. We can't have that type of criticism. It's upset me that this has happened." Gomez has been struggling to inject belief into a party that is still mentally scarred by the execution of the defender An-

dres Escobar, days after the

1994 team made a surprisingly early return from the World Cup four years ago in the United States Their preparations for France were disrupted by internal dispute back home, and with performances en route to the World Cup less than impressive, including a heavy de-

side, the omens were not favourable. They had been banking on Asprilla as one of their best hopes of success in France aithough St James's Park regulars will confirm his maddeningly inconsistent tendencies. He was a subdued

presence against Romania, a fixture that will possibly prove to have been his last ever in the World Cup. Nevertheless he is a threat

that can never be ignored as his record in the qualifying matches underlined - scoring six goals in his first five games and John Gorman, Glenn Hoddle's assistant did not disagree that it is a boost to England's hopes in the final group game in Lens a week tomorrow. "I am disappointed for him

TODAY: SOUTH AFRICA V DENMARK (4.30),

was prepared to leave himself as some of our lads know him but I am pleased for us." Gorman said. "Asprilla's a very exciting, world-class player, so we are pleased he is not going to be there.

> "He gave Germany a lot of problems. You never know what he's going to do. Some of the things he can do are as good as the Brazilians. "It was a bit of a shock and

things like this can't be good for their team spirit. We have a very good atmosphere ourselves, we make an effort to keep the lads who are not in the team very involved." However, team-mate Carlos

Valderrams, apparently the target of Asprilla's criticism of feat by an uninspiring Belgian Colombia's tactics, said that they would be strengthened by his departure. Asked whether Colombia would be weakened Valderrama

said: "No, now it gets fortified. When we're all here, we're all necessary. But when we're not here, then we're none of us essential." Valderrama added that the

other players had not got involved in the argument and had not interferred. "We don't butt in. When a player makes a mistake like that, the coach takes a decision," said the 36-year-old veteran of the two previous

"Now we're ready and waiting for the match against Tunisia (in Montpellier on Monday) spurred by the vision of qualifying (for the second

(Or just keep your fingers crossed).



What happens if

you pull the plug?

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THURSDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • **TELEVISION**



Justin Leighton/Network

The battle for peace in Northern Ireland is no longer being fought on the streets, but within a police force that must confront its troubled past. One man has been charged with the task of modernising the RUC. If he fails, he may fan the flames of conflict

here are two Royal Ulster Constabularies. The first is the force that describes itself as "quite simply the bulwark between anarchy and order," which has for nearly three decades been in the front line of the bat-tie against the IRA. With its officers daily risking their lives, it has paid a heavy price in the war against terrorism: 300 of its men and women have died violently, with no fewer than 8,000 injured. Many, horribly, have been killed while off-duty, in the presence of their families.

Other forces such as the FBI regard the RUC as one of the most professional police operations in the world, but it also faces a charge sheet drawn up by republicans, nationalists and human rights groups. Efficiency, say the critics, is no substitute

BY DAVID MCKITTRICK

for community acceptability, a police force's most valuable asset; and the force's undoubted sacrifices, they argue, do not exonerate it from blame for its own alleged wrong-doings.

The longevity of Irish memory means that the critics can reel off a list of alleged offences: the "shoot-to-kill" era; the Stalker affair, the Castlereagh interrogation controversy, the use of plastic bullets, the perception that officialdom conspires to cover up its misdeeds: the list is almost endless.

Critics and defenders can, and do, argue the toss about these ad infinitum, but one unarguable reality is the makeup of the force:

it is 92 per cent Protestant, and some of those other eight per cent are Catholics from England. The reasons for the imbalance are hotly debated, but its existence is unquestionable. Its internal ethos is also problematical.

It is beyond question that the RUC has a credibility problem with the nationalist population. For some years its image gradually improved, but then came Drumcree 1996 with its television images of RUC officers in Robocop-style outfits forcing aside local Catholics to allow Orange marchers down Portadown's Garvaghy

It looked like a repeat and an update, in vivid colour, of the grainy old 1969 pictures of burly RUC men bashing Catholic civil rights marchers in Londonderry. Those original images helped

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More Nineties terms of abuse

FROM TIME to time I bring you an update on modern usage, in a continuing glossary of the words of the 1990s. and here is another small selection for your collection. Abuse: Another word for "use", as in "drug abuse". Ambassadnr: A man who drink, vomits and tries to kill policemen, as in "We want our football supporters to be ambassadors for England". Anoraic A rather useful rain

Bastion: Some thing which is always "the last...." Bittersweet: Applied to a

film, it tends to mean a happy story with a sad ending or a sad story with a happy end-ing, but REALLY means "what's left of the author's best intentions after Hollywood has done its worst". Book Reviewer: A man or woman who always has his or



MILES KINGTON

with another selection of useful words for the modern world - and their real meanings

her name in bigger print than the author of the book under Britpop: The musical wing of

English Heritage. Clinical: Based on direct observation of a patient, and therefore heavily involved in practicality (as opposed to work in a laboratory, etc). Also, scientifically detached, objective, etc. The word therefore means EITHER emotionally detached OR directly involved. This may help to explain why it is always used wrongly. Or, of

course, correctly. Dork: See "nerd" Forensic: Although the dictionary definition of this is pertaining to a court of law, it has come to have a quite different meaning, i.e. "lots of DNA and blood and semen samples being tested by a police specialist in a white coat. played by that actor, you know, what's his name... Honour: Something which we used to develop for ourselves, as in "a sense of honour", hut which is now given to us by the Government, from an "honours list".

Incident off the ball: Football term meaning "grievous bodily harm". Infringement: Another football term, meaning "something minor our team has done wrong". If the other team does it, it's called "a

hlatant foul". Irony: A way of justifying violence.

Jury system: The democratic process whereby, when twelve good men and true are gathered together, they elect the poshest to be chairman. Link: A mistaken belief among Radio 4 people that you have to find a connection between two items, so that you hear Bragg or Purves saying: "I expect there is a link hetween Renaissance Art and tight-rope walking, but if there is I can't spot it, so let's go straight on to Total waste of time, fellows. Logistics: The art of finding the easiest solution to anything. The opposite of politics. Mindset: Politically correct way of referring to someone's arrant prejudices.

Nerd: see "wally". New Labour: New is the name given to something about to become very old. Think of New York and New Zealand. Or Edinburgh New Town, one of the oldest pieces of town planning still in use. Or the New Testament, very nearly 2,000 years old by now. Thus, it is only a matter of time before someone is referred to as Old New Labour. Confusingly, there is a chain of eating places in England called Old Orleans. Old Orleans is a town in France, famous for its vinegar etc. But they don't mean that - they

mean Old New Orleans. Politics: A system in which one side furiously tries to make the other side adopt its

ideas, and is then even more furious if it does. Religion: The theory that there is intelligent life in the next world.

Science: The theory that, if only we knew everything, it would probably be wrong. Talk to: To try to cut someone down to size, to take the piss out of, as in "Lynn Barber talks to Stephen Fry". Technology: Science that makes money.

Tory Party: A loose-knit organisation of Jeffrey Archer's ex-friends. Trainspotter: A man who

collects anoraks. Truth: A commodity sought every Monday morning at 9.00am by Melvyn Bragg and ms chums on Start The We who, like Enid Blyton's Famous Five, set out after every weekend to seek the answer to the question: "Why is there a mysterious light shining in yon old deserted pile of philosophy?", but discover that there is no time before 9.45 to discover it, despite which they'll be back at 9.00am next week, eager as pupples.

Vermin: Name given by hu-mans to forms of life that are hostile to humans, although It is quite possible that being hostile to humans will turn out to be the very best way to preserve the planet.

Wally: See "woos". World Cup '98: Irrefutable proof, at last, that it is possihle to stage a major football event without three fat opera singers.

Woos: See "dork".

THE REVIEW

DAY BY DAY

MONDAY REVIEW

As well as our regular columnists, features and

expanded comment pages, Network, our

information technology section, moves to Monday

TUESDAY REVIEW

An improved media section, with appointments,

moves to Tuesday. Visual arts and more health

pages are also Tuesday regulars

WEDNESDAY REVIEW

Fashion, midweek money pages, in addition to

finance and secretarial sections (previously

City+) remain on Wednesday

THURSDAY REVIEW

Our education section will appear as a separate

tabloid section. Improved and expanded film

pages now appear on Thursday

FRIDAY REVIEW

The architecture and science pages now move

to Friday. In addition, we will have a new law

section and our music pages

THE INDEPENDENT

Bigger and better



Johnny Jensen, left, puts the finishing touches to a creation for the Royal College of Art fashion and textile graduation show today

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity

England's shame

Sir: Rather than flying home the England team after the Marseilles riots (leading article, 16 June) a more constructive gesture might be for a body such as the Football Supporters Association to coordinate an appeal for decent, lawabiding football fans to donate a small sum of money to be sent to Marseilles to aid in the clean-up operation. In this way the fans could the organised violence and express their sympathy and shame, helping to rebuild bridges between the English and French. JENNY GILL

Sir: Nothing, but nothing excuses the sort of behaviour we have witnessed in the past few days. So let's hear less talk of civil liberties - these hooligans are infringing other

peoples' civil liberties. It's time to stop pussyfooting around and start withdrawing these thugs' passports and enforce their reporting daily to a local police station while these competitions are taking place. CRIS HENDERSON Beckenham.

Sir: I completely agree with Suzanne Moore ('Forever In-ger-land' 16 June). Over the last two years I have felt an increasing sense of anger at the acceptance and endorsement of the laddish football culture that has now become middle-class, trendy, acceptable, funny, especially from such TV quiz shows as They Think It's All Over with Nick Hancock; from the boringly crude language of Lee Hurst to the cripplingly smug, embarrassed grins of Gary Lineker and David Gower and the deeply insulting "if you don't think I'm funny you're a prude" attitude of Rory

I have a 14-year-old son and another of 11 and with this kind of humour, which appeals to adolescent boys, being presented by people in their thirties, coupled with the endorsement of TV companies putting their programmes on at prime times, it makes it almost impossible not to sound "oldfashioned" and "boring" to a teenager when things such as behaviour and language are discussed in the family. GILLIE RUSSELL Richmond, Surrey

McGrath - they should all know

Sir. Rather than deriding the "new football" tendency which has grown over the past few years, Suzanne Moore should applaud it as a genuine attempt by genuine fans to wrest back the game they (we) love. ANDY PEARSON Liverpool

Sir. On the morning of Monday 15 June my son, along with some 70 per cent of other 18-year-olds in France, wrote a four-hour essay for the obligatory philosophy paper in the Baccalaureate. The subject was "Comment décider qu'un acte est iuste". Simultaneously British youth was burning Tunisian flags and

stomping its way round Marseilles. An interesting cameo of cultural NEIL CALDER Divonne, France

Sir: Michael Green (letter, 17 June) is on dangerous ground when he says "the British are generally more racially hesitant, and often morehlatantly prejudiced, than their neighbours in Europe". He lives in France - a country where an extreme-right par up to 20 per cent of the popular vote and in which racist and anti-Semitic attitudes are endemic, as illustrated hy the furore over the right of Muslim women to wear the veil and attacks on Jewish cemeteries. Presumably he would not regard the bigots of the Front National as representative of the French nation as a whole: can it then be right to draw general cooclusions about the British people from the disgraceful behaviour of a few hundred English SIMON ROBSON

Sir: Whatever the causes of hooliganism, it cannot be put down to the English psyche (letters, 17 June). If this were the case, why are there no similar scenes during England's rugby and cricket matches? **DES BROWN** Newcastle upon Tune

Brussels

Sir: I cannot believe the blanket condemnation of English fans in Marseilles. It seems clear that the trouble originated when a cardriven hy Tunisians - ran over an England supporter. It was natural

and right for the English to retaliate. The English reputation from the 80s has caused any young drunken males from a different nationality to "have a go". The English have no other choice but to fight back. We ahould not be ashamed of these people but proud that they are willing to stand their ground and defend themselves and others. MIKE DEAN Manchester

Sir: In response to Kathy Wooton (letter, 16 June) I would note that there are 32 countries involved in this competition. Every fan is exposed to the same bar opening hours. They have not all rioted on the street JOHN RAMSAY Glasgow

A grovel in Brussels

Sir: Your Business Outlook article on BA's problems over its proposed alliance with American Airlines (12 June) states that, in dealing with officialdom, "the first rule is to grovel, however humiliating the experience". What terrible advice to give! The Brussels bureaucracy is there to serve the Union, but too often is allowed to become the

My own experience relates to container shipping, but with similar frustrations. One problem is that there are only a handful of people who matter in the Competition Directorate and they are bound to know more about the competition

rules of the Treaty of Rome than they do about the many industries they are required to deal with. Commission policy continues to be based in part on false premises.

Another problem is that the competition rules need updating. They were devised by the original Six. The present members in the British Isles, Scandinavia, Iberia and Middle Europe are entitled to a voice. The rules were devised over 40 years ago, since when industrial complex, favouring mergers to cope with the large scale of investments required. Many industries. including most of the transport sector, have become oligopolistic as a result. The competition rules need to recognise this more clearly than they do.

The key to improvement is to strengthen the democratic process. Governments need to take greater interest in Brussels decisions. At present this inevitably translates into greater activity in the Council of Ministers. The weight needs to be better distributed and the obvious institution to take more of the strain is the European Parliament.

European industries deserve a better system, one that avoids protracted wrangling in Brussels, all too often leading to recourse to the courts. A new democratic order setting out how the competitive interests of suppliers and customers are balanced is too important an issue to be left to a handful of regulators with a 40-year-old brief. European industrialists should stand up tall about the principles of competition. Grovelling will get them MICHAEL GRAHAM

Consultant in Liner, Container and Intermodal Shipping Tonbridge, Kent

Too much transport

Sir: Your leading article on transport (9 June) ignores the core problem, which is the enormous growth in total movement of both people and goods, by whatever means.

For example, the average item of food travels 50 per cent farther from producer to household than it did 10 years ago, Similar changes have occurred in almost every field of production, all represented by increases in lorry mileages. People also travel ever further to work, to shop, and in their leisure. Only a small part of this is because of increases in personal freedoms and choices. Most is the result of planning decisions by planning authorities, manufacturers, distributors, and retailers. Time and again the decision has been made that it will be cheaper to close down a factory, shop, school, hospital or distribution depot and let people travel farther to a new big central one, usually sited away from public transport.

A sensible transport policy must start by asking not how we move people and goods about, but how we can avoid the need to. CHRISTOPHER PADLEY Market Rasen, Lincolnshire

Sir: You report (13 June) that a cyclist is 16 times more likely to be killed on Britain's roads than a

motorist, and that the main official recommendation for reducing this figure is to provide cycleways. There seems to be an implication here that the roads are by definition unsafe for cyclists and should be avoided. This is reminiscent of the advice given to women to avoid going out after dark both suggest an unacceptable resignation to the status quo that leaves those who do not comply more exposed.

More could and should be done. such that in any accident with a cyclist, a motorist is always held at least partly to hlame TONY HUNT

Berlin

Tailing' schools

Sir: The Chief Inspector of Schools continues to amaze me with his crass simplifications of profound problems. His most recent claims concerning the widening gap between "failing" and "successful" schools could not be more damaging to the schools concerned ("Poor schools hlamed on headteachers", 11 June).

I had heen in post only one year when the Ofsted team failed the school of which I was proud to he headteacher. The label of "failing school" set in motion a train of events leading to the widening "gap" to which he refers. Although according to the Ofsted team I had "gained the confidence of students, staff and parents", any confidence they had was taken away at the stroke of a pen. Sixty children, all at the more able end of the academic spectrum, were withdrawn during the following few months. This represented 10 per cent of each year group. Despite this, the school managed a 7 per cent increase in grades A-C at GCSE. The school is still in special measures after more than two years.

Although a number of weaker staff were encouraged to "move on" I was unable to replace them since no teacher wished to move to a school in

this position. After 18 months I myself decided that enough was enough and moved out of the teaching profession in the UK and am now happily teaching in the Republic of Ireland. I prefer to teach in an environment where the teaching profession is respected, trusted and not subjected to campaigns of defamation from those from whom they should get more NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED

Wexford, Ireland

Dental pain

Sir: Your report on student numbers ("University fees don't deter young", 12 June) only tells half the story. The Government's plans for higher education are already having a dramatic impact on applications to dental schools, with a 12.1 per cent

decrease this year. The British Deptal Association (BDA) is very concerned at the potential effects on NHS dentistry. Increased financial burdens on dental students will make it much more difficult for all but the most wealthy students to train as dentists. It is important that the dental profession reflects society as a whole:

A BDA survey last year found that 90 per cent of newly qualified: dentists had debts averaging £9,200 per head. We are concerned that the introduction of tuition fees together with the scrapping of maintenance grants will simply increase the pressure on some areas; it may secome even more difficult to find an NHS dentist than it is now. I wonder how the Government will square this rith their stated comp improving access to NHS dentistry. JOHN HUNT Chief Executive British Dental Association

Cured by ECT

London W1

Sir. Beware a one-sided approach to a subject as vital as medical treatment ("ECT shocks to the

health system", 16 June). Severely clinically depressed, I accepted 10 treatments of electroconvulsive therapy while in the Royal Masonic Hospital. west London, in 1993. The effect was to kick-start the therapeutic action of my anti-depressant drugs, which until then had failed to work. Numerous fellow patients also

improved after ECT. I lost much (but not all) of my memory of the two months I spent in hospital, and my short-term recall is not what it was before the treatment. But I see that as a very fair price to pay for being able to live a normal life and meet my responsibilities

towards my family and society. Scare stories like your feature will deter patients who, as I was, are severely depressed and suicidal from accepting a procedure that really can save a life. DAVID J BOGGIS Orpington, Kent

IN BRIEF

Sir: Your article "Choose life, choose the family" (15 June) repeats a common misunderstanding of a recent study that ahowed that those species of primates in which fathers . participate more in childcare have a smaller gap between the life

expectancy of males and females. What must be understood is that the study compared species and not individuals within species. The study did not look at (and so did not find) any evidence that individual males who are more involved in the raising of children have a greater life

expectancy. JEFFREY GOLDBERG Cranfield, Bedfordshire

Sir: Sir George Martin proclaims that bands who overtly do drugs should be cast out by their record companies. The truth is that in signing a group, there is only one criterion that interests record companies: does that group make money? If they do, then almost any excess is permissible. That is a sign of a far wider and more persistent malaise than drug-taking will ever

MAHER M MUGHRABI Aberdeen

*THE INDEPENDENT

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The faltering economy: cause for concern, but not for panic

INFLATION UP, unemployment up, interest rates up, the pound too high, property prices down. Anyone might think we were in the early rather than the late 1990s, were it not for the World Bank warning that we could be beading for a world wide recession.

Yesterday's jobless figures – only the second increase in five years - should at the very least cause the most hullish observers to reconsider their optimism. Coming on top of Tuesday's six-year high inflation figure and weekend reports of a serious downturn in the property market, they mean that the "r word" is now back on economists' lips. The question that must now be asked is whether we are about to enter a recession. Is Rosy Scenario about to lose her bloom?

Tuesday's inflation figures came as little surprise. The Budget's tax increases alone meant that there would be an increase, and higher mortgages compounded this. None the less, the May headline rate of 4.2 per cent - up from 4 per cent in April - was well ahead of most City forecasts. The underlying rate, which is targeted at 2.5 per cent, rose from 3 per cent to 3.2 per cent, the highest since November 1996.

All sorts of explanations have been offered, from the 10.9 per cent increase in housing costs to the 9.1 per cent tobacco price inflation. We have even managed to get in our national fixation with the weather, rain damage spoiling the crop and forcing an 8.3 per cent increase in the price of fruit and vegetables - the largest since 1963.

The rise in interest rates a fortnight ago to 7.5 per cent was bad enough, but these latest figures catch the Bank of England between a rock and a hard place. Obliged to keep inflation down - which would indicate a further interest rate rise - the prospect of a strengthening pound on the back of still higher interest rates is enough to send shivers down the spines of exporters who are worried enough, with justification, about the effects of the existing exchange rate. No sooner had the inflation figures been announced than the sterling index rose from 105.7 to 106.1.

On top of all this, when the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee raised base rates last month they did so in ignorance of the Chancellor's public spending plans. The looser fiscal policy which they imply and Eddie George's warning that "we are closer to overheating" than we have been "in a long time" surely make another interest rate

But worries about the inflation rate as such should be kept in perspective. Retail prices have remained more or less stable since Black Wednesday in 1992, even



during the real boom years. House-price rises, a rising stock market and money supply growth are all, however, now having their effect. So it is not Gordon Brown who should be held responsible, but Kenneth Clarke - not least for the lax interest-rate policy at the end of his chancellorship.

Less striking but more worrying are yesterday's labour market figures. The first rise in the number of jobless for two years (the last blip in an otherwise steady five-year fall) is almost certainly due to the combination of the strong pound and interest rate rises. With no likelihood of either of these being reversed, the chances are that unemployment will continue to rise - albeit in tiny steps. But the 5.2 per cent increase in average earnings - the

highest rise since recovery began - needs to be watched. Inflation may not yet be a worry, but if we move towards the traditional British wage-price spiral we will certainly be in trouble. A CBI survey published yesferday found that some big companies are cutting back on property investment in the expectation that economic growth will slow often an accurate harbinger of future developments.

There is as yet no reason to think that we are about to enter a recession. However, while none of the individual measurements are in themselves cause for alarm, taken together they have the makings of something worrying.

The Chancellor has so far demonstrated a nifty touch. But we will only see his true mettle in the next few months.

Bringing justice to the world's tyrants

DELEGATES FROM 157 countries have assembled in Rome to discuss the creation of an international criminal court designed, as Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary General put it, to end the "global culture of impunity". The conference is the result of two years of detailed planning aimed at finalising a world-wide convention on global justice. Any serious international conference has to be submerged in paperwork, and this one is fully up to speed. The delegates have before them draft statutes running to 173 pages, 115 articles and 1,300 sub-clauses.

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Although some kind of final product is almost certain to emerge, the real question is just how powerful the eventual court will be. There have been severe doubts about the effectiveness of the ad hoc courts set up by the UN Security Council to try crimes committed in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, but the mere fact that the international community was able to muster sufficient energy and commitment to dip its toe in the water gave an impetus to a more for-

Now that something permanent is envisaged, however, realpolitik has entered the calculations. With the sole - and admirable - exception of Great Britain, the members of the Security Council object to a freestanding court, effectively able to decide it own agenda. They appear likely to veto any body which is not subservient to the UN - and thus to their own interests.

There are great practical difficulties involved in setting un such a court - the question of how the statutes would stand in relation to the national laws of sovereign nations, for instance. But in a world in which tyranny and butchery are an ever-present concern, the need for a powerful, well-resourced and transparently independent system of international justice s paramount. . .

A taxing question

AS IF we hadn't heard enough of Viagra, now come the calls for it to be made available on the NHS. Perhaps. The latest data says that 39 per cent of American 40year-olds are impotent. Even taking a conservative estimate, that is the equivalent of some seven million Brits. At \$10 a pill, a box of 30 costs about £200. That means £1.4 billion a year to give just one box to every impotent man in the country - which would add just under a penny to the basic rate of income tax. Over to you, Mr Dobson.

France, a lucky nation poised on • the brink of sustained prosperity

HESTING THE World Cup is a great way of getting noticed so, of course, for the past few weeks, France has found itself under the microscope.

Britons always find it hard to come to terms with our neighbour, in, she always seems to present two, very different, faces. We have seen this clash between the two realities again and again: the grand, beautifully organised stadiums and the hopeless ticketing arrangements; or the excellent electronic transmission facilities and the

We veer between admiration and irritation, between a sense of inferiority (their trains, their food, their style) and superiority (our airlines, our food, our style). How else could you explain the fact that we have elevated London past Paris to the status of restaurant capital of the world except as a mixture of our insecurity and our cockiness?

Over the past five years the cockiness has been more in evidence, for two solid economic reasons. One is cyclical: our economy has grown faster than the French, which has only really improved into a solid recovery

this year. The other is structural: we have made a number of painful changes to. our economy over the past 20 years which France is just starting to make Together these have helped not only to cut our unemployment to half the French level, but also to push the pound back up to 10 francs. Whether it is eating at a posh Paris restaurant or rioting in Marseilles, we can afford it. Economic success is not the only component of cultural self-confidence,

but it helps a lot. But do not expect this to last. The economic pendulum will swing back. In fact yesterday's news on rising unemployment in the UK shows that the pendulum is swinging now. France will again start to enjoy faster growth than britain, possibly even this year. And eventually France, too, will make the structural changes it needs to make. One small example: by facing down that Air France pilots' strike the Prime Minister, Lionel Jospin, may have managed to do from the left what his predecessor failed to achieve from the right: start to reinsert some discipline into French labour practice

If you stand back and look at France's international comparative position, there are great strengths that will serve it well. There are also three serious problems, of which more in a moment; first focus on those

It is very clear that the world economy will shift further to services during the next couple of decades, and that what remains of manufacturing in Europe will rely on high technology, productivity and craft skills to survive. Well, France is a larger exporter of services than the UK: its strength is more than anything else in tourism, while the UK's is in financial services. But maybe tourism will grow even faster over the next couple of decades

than finance. Look at manufacturing, and the areas likely to prosper are precisely those in which France has comparative advantage: high tech, high productivity (currently still higher than the UK), and high craft.

These are deep strengths, embedded in the culture of the country. By contrast, many of the weaknesses can be fixed, given the political will.



HAMISH MCRAE We veer between inferiority

(their trains, food and style) and superiority (our airlines, food and style)

One of the main reasons why unemployment is so high in France is misplaced job protection legislation. It is expensive to get rid of people. Insiders, men with secure jobs, do well; outsiders, the young, tha poorly educated, women, immigrants, tend to do badly.

France's rigid labour market, unlike Britain's of the 1970s, is not principally the product of excessive union power, though it sometimes seems so. It is the product of poorly crafted laws, something that is easier to fix. As it happens, some of the present gov-ernment's policies, such as limiting the working week to 35 hours, take things in the wrong direction. But on a 20-year view this does not matter. At some stage these policies will be reversed, because they have to be.

There has been a problem of political leadership in France, winning popular support for unpopular measures. It is possible that it will be easier for the left to gain such support

the budgetary cuts needed to meet the Maastricht targets; it could continue the market reforms too, albeit '

in any case the single currency will tinental Europe, forcing convergence of good practice in industry and commerce just as Maastricht has forced convergence in government. When it does, the underlying strengths will come into play. So what can go wrong? There are

a couple of real concerns, which will dog France over the next 20 years. a discontinuous way. It is tough to go through any period of big social and economic change unless you can buffer that change by compensating the losers. If people are going to lose their jobs you need to make sure that they have secure pensions. Given the ng population there will not be a lot of spare resources available to compensate those who lose out. The French may therefore go through one of the sudden, aearing, political changes that take place there every

couple of generations. The other concern is economic. France has a problem with French. Or rather it has a problem with English. There has been a rise in the importance of English in the world economy. This is partly a function of the increased importance of the entertainment industries in world trade. These account for about 7 per cent of US exports, the country which dominates the market. It even dominates the French league. I looked at

than the right. The left has continued of the top five was American. A generation ago British students were brought up on French films; new even the French don't seem to want

But it is not just entertainment: act as a discipline on the whole of con-tinental Europe, forcing convergence the adoption of information technology, the fastest-growing single area of growth in the economies of developed countries. The US leads the way, but other countries which score high in investment in information technology are the UK, the Scandinavian countries and the Netherlands - all countries which either speak English One is that reform will take place in as a first language of are very proficient in it. Investment in information technology is much lower in France, Italy and Spain. Internet use is surprisingly low in France despite the fact that the technology is theoreti-

cally language-neutral. To crank more productivity out of service industries particularly requires investment in information technology. The problem is not evident now, but 10 years down the line countries that have not embraced the new technologies will find themselves at a serious competitive

The balance sheet for France is still positive. Its underlying strengths will become more significant in the new service-oriented world. It is a lucky country in a tantalising position. The prize of sustained prosperity through the next two decades is there to be grasped, but the country needs to reach out and grasp it. The gap in economics between relative success and relative failure is such a narrow one. the list of top films in the French box as we know in Britain. I suppose that office a few weeks back and all but one applies in feotball, too.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

I know that violence is endemic in these type of games. I've played the Eton wall game and that was an extremely violent experience. Alan Clark, Conservative MP, on football hooliganism

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"At fifty everyone has the face he deserves." George Orwell,

SOMETIMES IT'S EASIER TO TALK TO SOMEONE YOU DON'T LIKE.



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THE NEWS OF THE WORLD Final verdicts on the result of the Louise Woodward case



process, Woodward or the Boston Herald Eappens. The British aren't LOUISE WOODWARD was welleven sure whether to be liked by her elders: she was appalled by the tawdriness of smart, well-spoken and a EVEN THOUGH the defence the US justice system - or to volunteer at both the Science team's playing of the working and Children's Museums. mother" card didn't work, the the start. put their own trials on TV.

"Good-natured, trustworthy, outpouring of sympathy for honest, intelligent, capable, Woodward after the initial honest, intelligent, capable, balanced and, most important, kind," said the Woodward family's clergyman about the young woman whose rage left a two-inch crack in a ninemonth-old's skull.

Now she is on her way home, someday to start a family of her

verdict illustrated how conflicted our culture still is about the relationship between motherhood and work.

The Economist, UK ENGLAND IS the home of Mary Poppins, while Massachusetts is the scene of the Salem witchhunts; and so the televised trial for murder of an English au pair girl in the state of Massachusetts played on potent stereotypes right from

Boston Globe, US JUSTICE HAS been served in the Louise Woodward case. But the finality of the decision should not obscure the fact that the an pair system under which she worked is inherently exploitative of young women and invites tragedy.

This case, for all its complications and legal manoeuvring, showed the strength and flexbility of Massachusetts justice. The same cannot be said of the au pair system which operates under the guise of providing a learning experience for young

women from abroad. In fact, it is a system of cut-rate child care, and child care is no place for confused, inexperienced, frustrated, immature or angry young women - barely more

Peter S. Canellos. Boston.com (Internet)

than girls - working by them-

DURING THIS case, much grief was aired. Little was settled. There is no consensus on Woodward's culpability. Nor a definitive view of who was more poorly served by the legal

MONITOR

Lauri Umansky, Salon Magazine (Internet)

PANDORA

was the late Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party aidede-camp and a founder of the euro sceptic Bruges Group, offered some lukewarm eocouragement to William Hague's Tory Party on Tuesday evening. He told Pandora that be found it highly unlikely that the Conservatives could win the next general election, but his advice to Hague was to "chill out and wait". If the Boy Wonder heeds this, does that mean we'll have photos of him looking miserable at the Notting Hill Carnival for nine more years?

YOU MIGHT want to be aware of the Awareness Campaign Register: Sponsored by a wide range of organisations, the ACR is an effort to keep track of the profusion of "awareness campaigns" now launched in this country. Recently, this diary covered Monday's "National Car-Free Day". just one of 56 awareness campaigns being conducted this Jane according to ACR. If you want to keep "Sun Awareness Week" in focus while "National Deafblind Awareness Week" looms, with Help the Aged's "Longest Day" just over the horizon, surf yourself over to ACR's Website at www.awareness.co.uk. On the other hand, considering the 375 awareness campaigns scheduled for 1998, doesn't our mental health demand at least one "Involuntary Unawareness of Anything Week"?

FLEXING THEIR financial muscles comes perfectly naturally to the hoys from Goldman Sachs, one of the sponsors of the Royal Court Theatre's "Caribbean Carnival" on Tuesday evening. After an excellent dinner, guests from the soon-to-Ooat merchant bank took an extremely active part in the "dream auction" under the direction of Nicholas Bonham. Bidding was ferocious, and the Goldman table always set the pace. After they had managed to capture the Terry O'Neill photos of Frank Sinatra, one dis-



PATRICK ROBERTSON, who | just can't bid against Goldman Sachs." Hardly news in the City.

> THE REAL life "Donnie Brasco", partrayed by Johnny Depp (pictured below) in the film, is FBI agent Joseph Pistore. He spoke at a recent conference organised by Kroll, the international corporate security outfit to warm husinessmen about a side effect of the Millennium Bug. A Mafia-backed computer company has stolen thousands of dollars from US firms by pretending to solve their "Year 2000" problems, while rewriting software to redirect payments to Mob accounts. "When I was undercover with the Cosa Nostra, I was involved in situations where we would get into a company and introduce fake payroll and vendors to divert money," said Pistore. "That was 15 years ago and the Masia has gotten more sophisticated since." Let British husinessmen be wary of so-called computer bug experts lest they turn nut to be profit exterminators.

BESTSELLING AUTHOR John le Carre bas sacked both his American agent, Lynn Nesbitt. and publishers, Alfred A. Knopf, for whom his brilliant espionage novels have earned fortunes. It would take a spy of George Smiley's cunning to learn the reason for le Carre's displeasure. When Pandora spoke to his British agent, Bruce Hunter, at the David Higham agency, all he would say was, "I've no idea what's behind it." Was the author contemplating changing his British representation or his UK publishers, Hodder & Stoughton? "Not as far as I know," Hunter said, with a laugh that came in from the cold.

WHAT HAS happened to polities in sleepy Switzerland? Our nanghtiest Westminster politicians bave

done notbing to compare with the scandal caused by Swiss assembly-Balestra. Formerly the porn star called "Sandy", Balestra as elected to serve in the regional Swiss assembly in

1995. The fact that she has only attended two sessions of the parliament can be explained by how busy she was elsewhere. She has been convicted of dealing 360 grams of cocaine and 90 tabs of ecstacy. What the Swiss really need is a Harriet Harman, some Anne Widdecombes, or even - dare we say it - an Edwina Currie to sort things out.

Why discriminate against the young?*

I AM 22 years old, and if things go the wrong way on the minimum wage - as I fear they might - I'm going to be one those people who our Government believes need less to live off than anyone else. In other words, I won't be getting the full protection of the national minimum

wage. And I think that stinks. I know what it's like working for £2.50 an hour: demoralising, isolating, tough and dehumanising. You can't afford to socialise, your resolve goes, your sense of self-worth is undermined. And always, just as you think you're pulling through, a bill

arrives in the post.
When Margaret . Beckett launched the bill that established the Low Pay Commission last year, she spoke about the Government's strategy "to belp make work pay". And surely that's the point. To make work pay to make it worthwhile, to reward the enthusiasm of young people to find a job and better

That's apart from the argument of fairness. Excluding young people, solely on the basis of age, from wage exploitation is a flagrant and inIt's wrong for employers to be allowed to exploit young workers. By Lisa Dugdale

don't see how the Government could justify telling young people that we are not entitled to earn as much as

someone over 25. After all, I am an adult with adult responsibilities. I can vote, pay tax and national insurance. I have to find the money to put a roof over my head and food in my stomach, neither of which cost less because I am under 25, under 21, or whatever the cut-off rate will be.

I am happy to work as hard as anyone, regardless of their age. Why then doo't I need wage protection if someone with the same responsibilities who is a few years

And I'm not alone. Consider a few statistics. One million 16-to-25-yearolds are heads of households. One third of them have dependent children. Around 45 per ceot of men and women between 18 and 20 are being paid less that £3.70 an hour. How do

sulting display of discrimination. I these young people manage to bring up their families?

Of course, we're told that young people can always tap their parents for some spare cash. These are the sort of assumptions made by those with no knowledge of real life. At 17 I became estranged from my parents and had to fend for myself. And apart from estrangement, which is not that uncommon, there's the problem of what to do if your parents are unemployed or low-wage

earners themselves. I have spoken to other young people up and down the country about their possible exclusion from the minimum wage and the resentment they felt was compounded by the hardship they are experiencing. The level of debt. for example, is

On average, in the survey I cooducted for the Children's Society. young people who are working have debts of £1,500. It is interesting that

those who don't have jobs have smaller debts, around £1,100. The costs of working, such as travel, clothing and the increased expectation - unfortunately misplaced of a better standard of living seem to have pushed young people over the edge. One young man I spoke to had been beaten up by debt collec-

tors for £50. I am starting to see this government as a distant source of power. Take for example it's New Deal for getting young people back to work. A great idea, but what's the good in offering a welfare-to-work plan for young people if you don't care if those in it are exploited?

What's the point in training for work if the job at the end of it doesn't pay enough to live on? Young people are discriminated against in other areas, too. If you are under 25 you receive less job seeker's allowance and housing benefit. Once again the ignorant and insolting suggestion is that young people have fewer needs. They certainly have fewer rights.

The whole point of minimum wage legislation is to protect vul-

nerable workers from exploitation by unscrupulous employers. Any tranche of statistics you choose will show that young people are among the most exploited, and the least protected.

To have a minimum wage to protect vulnerable workers and then fail to help those most in need of protection defeats the object of the exercise. It is almost as if we are being told we can't be protected by this legislation because we are not worth

Excluding us from the protection of the minimum wage not only discriminates, exploits and isolates the young people of this country, it contravenes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the European Social Charter.

But most of all it is a policy that will condemn young people to debt and poverty. And for a Government committed to ending social exclusion, that's bad news.

The writer carried our research for the Children's Society report Nothing Less Will Do: Young People's Views on the Minimum Wage'.

Even a child-killer should. be able to sell her story

SHOULD LOUISE Woodward sell ber story to the tabloid press? Should she be allowed to? Should the press pay for interviews with Louise if they are offered? In my view, the only thing that should stand in the way of such a commercial exchange would be Louise's own best interest.

Practically and pragmatically, it would be a mistake for Louise to cash in now on the dramatic events she has lived through since 4 February last year when the baby in her care, Matthew Eapen, died from a bead injury. Her future depends on the support of the British public, which by and large is convinced that she is innocent.

The public bere has been behind Louise throughout ber trials in the United States, and she must keep it a deal with just one newspaper.

Yes, that paper would give ber personal account of what happened doubt the paper would come out entirely on Louise's side and be entirely supportive - just as The Mirror and The Express were with the two Saudi nurses, Deborah Parry and Lucille McLaughlin, found guilty of murdering a colleague, and who made deals with those papers.

The readers of the paper which published Louise's own story might number as many as five million, and they would no doubt be confirmed in their belief in her. But the readers of the other papers, who might number 20 million, would get a very different impression.

The tabloids that missed out on the story teither by being outbid, or deciding not to make an offer) would immediately attack and rubbish her. After all, this is just what happened in the case of the two nurses.

We might not like the fact that our popular press is more interested in circulation figures than in fighting for justice and truth, but that is how



MAX CLIFFORD

The marketplace has proved a better regulator of morals than either governments or rigid codes of ethics

with her now. But just think what the system we've got works. And public eye have to understand how the media works.

If Louise wants to win yet more that fateful day a full display, and no friends and influence the undecided, she should tell ber story to everyone, without restriction or fee. Then no one will have a stake in rubhishing her, and all the newspapers will probably portray Louise in conformity with the positive images their readers already have of her.

There will be no loss for Louise in this, not even a financial one; for the more popular she becomes, the brighter her future for an eventual book, film and TV documentary. As time goes by. Louise will find that by having talked to everybody, and convincing them that she is innocent. there will be oo criticism if she benefits in the future.

What you need in matters of public opinioo is the backing of the public at large. That's the whole crux of this husiness: if you're liked and popular, you are likely to be believed. The trick is making sure you stay liked.

There is another side to this matter, however, and that is what the press should allow itself to do. At the moment, it has signed itself up to a code, promulgated by the Press Complaints Commission, which specifically forbids it to offer "payment for stories, pictures or information - to convicted criminals".

Fortunately: the majority of editors of popular newspapers tend to ignore this pious sentiment whenever commercial interests dictate

This is fortunate because in a democracy, the only censor should be the court of public opinion. As a general rule, free speech need not. and should not be interfered with If readers don't like a story, if they think their paper is wrong to have published it, they won't buy the paper next time around. Editors will get the message very quickly when their circulation figures start to

If this does not sound convincing. remember what happened to the circulation of The Sun when it blamed the Liverpool fans for the disaster that befell them at Hillsborough. The Sun still suffers poor sales in Liverpool for the callous way it reported that tragic event.

Of course, you've got to take every situation on its merits. There's a difference between Mary Bell. and the two Saudi nurses; and between the nurses and Louise Woodward. And between all of them and Myra Hindley.

But even in the case of Myra Hindley there may come a time when she is released from jail. If that were to happen, it would be because she had paid ber debt to society. She'd have paid ber price according to law, and even in that extreme case once she's paid the price demanded by society for her crimes, the British people should be free to choose whether or not to read newspapers that pay for her story.

Of course, the Press Code is voluntary, and newspapers can break it if they believe their readers will re-





Louise Woodward (left) was ordered not to cash in on her story; Deborah Parry, however, was paid by a tabloid paper

en to pass laws that would make it illegal to buy the stories of convicted criminals or their associates. Just think what would happen to the many campaigns which the press has run to free falsely convicted victims of injustice. Many have been proved to be totally innocent, after editors had paid for information from relations and others who had important knowledge.

Or consider those thugs who have been arrested in France for football violence. When they've come out after three months, if a paper wants to pay them one or two thousand pounds, we might learn why they do things like this. And we might also learn something useful about how to prevent them from causing mayhem in the future. After all, all those experts couldn't stop them; maybe we can learn how they got round the preventive procedures that were put in place. If sitting down

spond positively. The real problem and talking to these thugs might comes from politicians who threat- yield something useful; surely payment is one good way to get them talking.

It's easy to criticise the readers of The Sun and the other tabloids. to say they have no morals and no sense, and cannot be counted on to be the deciders of what is acceptable in the marketplace. But this is just not so. Look what happened when the nurses sold their stories; they lost public respect and support, and the papers that bought their stories did themselves no good either.

Politicians and moralists who prate about freedom have to learn to trust the people to use that freedom wisely. The marketplace has proved itself over the years to be a better regulator of morals than either governments or rigid codes of

The writer advises stars and organisations on press relations

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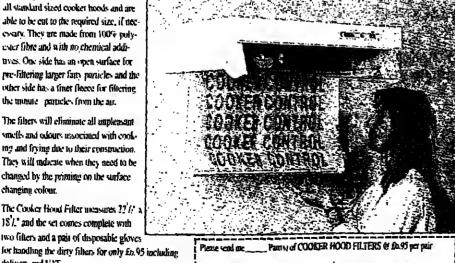
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Welcome aboard the Euro Titanic

be free. In Kosovo, Albanians are demanding self-government. In Sri Lanka the Tamils, in Iraq, Turkey and Iran the Kurds demand independence. According to the polls even the Scots now demand separation from the

United Kingdom. Yet bere in the European Union our masters are intent on reducing independent nations into mere provinces of a state called Europe.

Surely they must be mad? At the end of the British six months' presidency of the European Union Council (not, by the way, the Presidency of Europe - a post which does not (yet) exist), has the democratic deficit been reduced? What progress has been made by the process of subsidiarity in returning bome to this country. to our people, to our parliament, the powers which bad previously been transferred

to Brussels? The answer is simple and clear in each case. None. None.

ALL OVER the world accelerated in the opposite dipeople are struggling to rection. Not only that, but the rection. Not only that, but the agreement on the next stage of monetary union - taken in clear breach of the criteria and requirements set out in the Treaty of Maastricht - has increased the centripetal tendency of the European Union. For the first time in hundreds of years we find ourselves ruled by an elite who insist that whilst we must obey the laws they make, they are free to break those laws themselves when it suits them.

It was at Runnymede that the barons started the process, through Magna Carta, of bringing the monarchy under the law. Now after 900 years that process is being reversed.

Yet Mr Blair announced on Wednesday his concerns about ceotralisation. He wants, he says, to bring back powers to Britain. But how did these powers ever become centralised?

He has been in the presidency since January, and now in its dying days he talks about bringing powers home. It's a bit late. Prime Minister. But you could start by announcing that Indeed, by the Treaty of your Government will not hand



LORD TEBBIT Extract from a speech

given by the former Tory party chairman to an Anti-Maastricht Alliance rally in Cardiff

terest rates to the bankers in Frankfurt.

Everyone knows that within a monetary union there can be only one bank rate. Within Euroland it will be no more possible for Finland to have a different rate from Portugal than it is today for the rate in Cardiff to differ from that in Edin-Amsterdam the process has responsibility for setting in burgh. Suppose then that one

country (it could be us, if Mr Blair and his ally Mr Heseltine have their way) needs lower interest rates to avoid sliding into recession or slump, but the bankers decide that Germany needs bigher rates to cool down a boom.

Obviously in that country unemployment would rise. The government would not be allowed to increase expenditure, nor to cut taxes - that would break the rules on the public sector borrowing limits. It could not cut interest rates.

Suppose, then, at an election the people elected a parliament committed to lower interest rates and taxes. What then? Tough luck.

That is what I described as the Euro Titanic - with no lifeboats. If the democratic path is blocked by the edicts of unelected officials theo the people will be bound to look for

another path. Sooner or later mainstream taxes will have to be the same across Euroland. There is no example of a single currency having differing mainstream taxes in the world. There is no doubt in the minds of the leading continental politicians that monetary union, fiscal union and political union cannot exist

separately. So where does this leave the

democratic process in the EU? Last week a Committee of the European Parliament issued a report recommending that all member states adopt a single PR system for elections in which 10 per cent of MEPs would be elected from a list of candidates in one single EUwide constituency. The leader of the so-called Conservative MEPs is reported to have given his support to the idea.

Quite clearly this is a step towards the creation of Euroland. And the message is clear. If you want any democracy in the EU you must accept not only the single currency, but the single parliament and the single sovereign state.

The single currency is a dangerous political instrument which would destroy our national democracy.

If we do not oppose it through our domestic institutions, then it will destroy those very institutions themseives. How then would the will of the people be

The Independent 18 June 1998: CO So how good a parent are you?



DAVID **AARONOVITCH**

Can ministers campaign against drink-driving, but not against the worse crime of incompetence in charge of the future?

AUNT SALLY has just written another pamphlet, and Uncle Jack would probably much rather she hadn't. Her effort - which will certainly have every liberal commentator in Britain happily foaming at the mouth - is published by the Demos think-tank today and is entitled "The Family in Question".

Supposedly penned by a Professor "Stein Ringen" of Green College, Oxford (a rather obvious leg-pull in my opinion), this work calls for - among other things - the discouragement of cohabitation, and for children to have rights of veto over parental divorce and abortion. Can't you just imagine little Knut or Inge Ringen bargaining for that new pair of in-line skates, in return for allowing Daddy to elope with the au pair?

No, neither can L So that's why I say that it has Aunt Sally's fingerprints all over it.

Uncle Jack Straw's unhappiness stems from the fact that his own efforts will now be confounded with Stein Ringen's by those perpetual critics of Family Values, the liberal columnists. When, in July, he stands up to announce the establishment of a National Family and Parenting Institute, he will be met with pre-

Images of Dickensian moralists and other proselytising grotesques will be conjured out of word-processors and used to affright readers of this and other newspapers. The Witch-finder General will be portrayed as being loose in the countryside, bringing with him the full panoply of puritanical accoutrements: scold's bridles, ducking stools, compulsory mediation, moral education and - of course - stigmatisation (single parents, for the use of.

According to reports yesterday (see under "deliberate leak") the new Institute will be given half a money, and its charitable status will allow it to raise untaxed funds from other sources. Its patriarch or matriarch will be a "telegenic personality" on 80 grand a year, and its board will (says the Daily Mail) "have leading figures of all political

The remit of the NFPI will be to



Can government really be involved in helping us to raise our children better, or are all such initiatives simply the thin edge of a totalitarian wedge?

oversee health visitors (who give advice to parents in the first year of a child's life), to set standards for classes in parenting, to operate a telephone "parentline" - all of this aimed at helping mummies and daddies to bring the kids up a bit better. Just call them up, and they'll tell you how to do it.

So, over time, NFPI will be the place from which our sense of what constitutes good parenting will spring... Stand up the person who just said "Bleughh!" I know what you're thinking - God knows I've seen it written down often enough, You believe that, at worst, this is the thin end of the totalitarian wedge, don't you?

This is an invasion of private space by public authorities, all of a piece with Uncle Jack's notorious how can the Government or some central agency lay down for individuals what is best for their children? And even if they could, it's futile. Those who want to be "good" parents already bring their kids up that way - and those who don't, aren't going to take any bleedin' notice, anyway.

Oh, and while we're about it, lets throw in the poverty objection for good measure, which is that wealth (or the lack of it) is the best indicator of a child's well-being, and that other considerations are secondary - so get your cheque-

It is true that there is something about the notion of parenting that is relentlessly middle class. People who use "parent" as a verb are probably those who buy magazines featuring articles about where to take vegetarian children during the summer holidays, and whose major concern is whether to let Bryony learn the saxophone. Their spiritual home is in Center Parcs, and their true motive is to inculcate in the rebellious and untidy working classes values that will guarantee against

parented progeny. It is little wonder, then, that some columnists, reminded of their own strained relationship with their parents, and of the joys of liberation, now see the government with its Family Values as a kind of ultimate Paterfamilias. Nothing gives them greater pleasure than turning

round to Uncle Jack, sticking their tongues out and shouting "Shan't! Won't!" at the top of their printed

They're completely wrong, of course. Those who are infertile and wish to adopt children often compare the qualifications you need to pass muster as a prospective parent with the complete absence of any skill or quality that is required before one can become a biological

To drive a caryou oeed a licence. To have a child all you need is a uterus, a basin of hot water and some towels. The consequences are visible in any public place.

While most people manage OK (though we could all do with some help), some are appalling parents. There are the shouters, the hitters, parents who - while splitting up make their children bear the brunt of their own emotional pain, those who do little or nothing to encourage their children at school, those who belligerently take the child's side against the teacher who is trying to teach.

And the rest of us, bow good are

we? How many divorced fathers lose touch altogether with children who are desperate to see them? How many divorced mothers deny proper access to those fathers?

What help do we give with home-work and reading? How hard do we listen to what our children are saying, and how much effort do we put into answering their questions? How much time do we spend with them, and do we enjoy it, or begrudge it?

The truth is that there are indeed better and worse ways of being a parent. And it is also true that being a parent is one of the most socially important roles that one can

How can it possibly be, then, that there is oo role for government in helping to define and encourage paign against smoking and drinkdriving, but not against the far worse crime of incompetence in

charge of the future? Of course, there is a danger of a deadening Swiss-style social conformism being the consequence of an over-advised society. But it is in-

teresting that the government's ini-

tiative has been criticised by those on its political right for not sufficiently emphasising the desirability of parents being married and staying that way.

As shadow minister and Tory thinker David Willetts put it to me, "The government uses the F word [family], but is afraid to use the M word [marriage]". He would like to see cohabitation (or consensual union) discouraged, as the evidence suggests that such relationships are more prone to break down.

As a consensual unionist myself, I think that Willetts is wrong. Uncle Jack (himself a divorcee and a son of divorced parents) understands that a stance which implies a judgement on who exactly people choose to love and live with is likely to alienate many of the parents whom he

It might be better if Gideon and Betty could find a way of staying together through a rough patch - and mediation may help - but that's Aunt Sally's province. The real issue is how - whatever the decision is - the kids are going to be brought up. And Uncle Jack may be able to help us there.

RIGHT OF REPLY

DOUG HENDERSON



The Minister for Europe defends the Government's presidency of the European Union

SIX MONTHS ago, Tony Blair launched Britain's presidency of the European Union at Waterloo station. He set out an ambitious agenda under the slogan of "giving Europe back to the people". It included two steps that would profoundly change the nature of Europe: enlargement and Economic and Monetary Union.

First, enlargement. We said we would get this off to a good start, and we have done so. We brought all the applicants into an inclusive process in which they can each move at their own speed to membership. Now, the prospect of a re-united continent is considerably

Next, EMU. We made clear early on that Britain was not going to be in the single currency at the start. But we did say we would do everything we could to ensure a successful launch. The Summit could have been smoother, but the result was an effective launch for the euro, reflected by the markets' positive response.

We have made progress in moving Europe closer to the people on subjects they care about. Our presidency has seen agreement on a series of measures. Some are well known: a ban on driftnet fishing that should help to protect dolphins, and a first step to high standards for Europe's arms exports. Others will become better known, such as the agreement to create a single market for the next generation of mobile phones.

Six months is not a long me in the EU. Change is slow. We have mada good, workmanlike progress. But Britain's standing has been transformed. There are few doubts that we are a committed and innovative partoer in Europe. That is good for Britain and for Europe.

An England team behaving perfectly

THIS IS the story of an English crickel team that went to India to compete in a World Cup, lost, and did so without whingeing. Displaying stamina and good humour, they undertook an itinerary that would try the patience of even the most hardened India hand, shuttling from one end of the subcontinent to another by plane, bus and train. Since they were women, there was no money and little glory on offer but motivation was not a prob-

lem and commitment never in doubt.
Unlike the team taking the field today against South Africa, these England cricketers had actually won a World Cup, upsetting New Zealand in the 1993 final at Lord's (a venue that appears to inhibit the men). That victory led to a brief flurry of interest from the cricket media, eager to use the women's triumph to bash the hapless men. The momentary excitement was quickly followed by a return to accustomed oblivion and the hard graft of building a game from the grass roots. By the time they visited India last December to defend the title, the England women had managed to scrape together sponsorship, support staff, and - in Pete Davies the most adept chronicler the

women's game has yet attracted. Davies takes the women cricketers on their own terms, not as foils for the men. He shares their sense of mission and writes sympathetically of their skills and struggles, without ever striking a patronising note. He enjoyed a degree of access and trust a reporter following the men's team could only dream of and he does not abuse it. The frustrations, conflicts, failures and occasional sulks are there, but underlying Davies's frank team portrait is a sober respect which comes as a welcome relief from the wild hurching between sentiment and cynicism which blights so much writ-

ing about the men's game. The book offers a rare insight into



THURSDAY Воок

MAD DOGS AND ENGLISH WOMEN BY PETE DAVIES, ABACUS, £9.99

a small but vital corner of the sporting universe, and reveals much about the dilemmas confronting women who seek to play uncommercial sport at the highest competitive level.

These England cricketers are working-class women - van drivers and teachers, posties and clerical workers - and the spirit in which they play the game is as far from the old public school ethos as can be imagined. They drive themselves to achieve professional standards of performance without any hope of a professional's reward.

Curiously, and precisely because they are not playing for cash and career, their motives seem more chusive than their male counterparts'. One of the pleasures of Davies' book is watching the women themselves trying to figure out what keeps them

It was the Alzbeimer's made Maurice sweet

those last ten years in contrast with the six

decades and then some of huffing and puffing

his way through three marriages, a couple

unsuccessful runs for public office,

his business and the love of his children.

God's Will is what his only daughter called it,

to see that awful, angry man gone soft,

going, even as they do keep on going, often in circumstances that drive the author himself to despain

Davies approaches India with a generous spirit, but his patience wears thin, and a curmudgeonly whine creeps into the prose as he marshals the familiar cast of obtuse bureauxrats, incompetent waiters, and hair-raising drivers. For all the precisely observed sketches of the "grubby vividness" of India, it remains an India glimpsed from a great distance, where even the fall of the government is merely a passing headline. Disappointingly, Davies makes no attempt to ascertain the state of the woman's game in India or . to explore its place in south Asian society. His attitude towards the country remains fond but deeply frustrated and utterly baffled. The resultant grouchiness colours too much of the

THURSDAY POEM

LOCAL OBITS BY THOMAS LYNCH



Charlotte Edwards in action in Hyderabad

narrative, sometimes pushing the real subject, the England cricketers, out of sight.

Earlier this year, the Women's Cricket Association voted to end 70 years of independence by folding itself into the English Cricket Board, which administers the men's game. The lure of recognition and resources outweighed anxieties about lost autonomy. However, in light of the sex discrimination ruling against the ECB in March, and the crass sexism revealed in the evidence given to the In-

gone simple and benevolent at last

"You take the good with the bad," she reckoned.

"He didn't know me at the end, but he approved."

Our poems today and tomorrow come from Thomas

Lynch's third collection. "Still Life in Milford", just

published by Jonathan Cope (£8).

dustrial Tribunal, women cricketers will expect few favours. ŒCB Chief Executive Tim Lamb is alleged to have remarked of England's women cricketers that "We need tha dykes in

to get the lottery money") And television viewers should note that the same MCC membership which has staunchly barred women from membership gave overwhelming approval to the construction of the ungainly new media centre at Lord's. hanging over the Nursery End like an an airborne southern Californian taco stand. What counts for cricket's old guard is not so much tradition as privilege and power. They are unlikely to cede either to women without pres-

sure from the outside world. Rightly, Davies ends his book by urging readers to attend this summer's hig series against the world champion Australians. Cricket lovers would be daft to miss the chance to see an England side hungry for revenge take on the polished talents of Belinda Clark, the record-breaking opening bat; Kathryn Fitzpatrick, the tearsway fast bowler, and Olivia Magno, slow bowler and rebarbative sledger

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Morris Kestelman

abstract painting he is probably best known for his depictions of French peasants, Spanish fishermen, circus artistes, and beautifully composed landscapes where light and shade alternate in playful, subtle games. The solidity of his figures and his emphasis on movement gave his work a strong affinity with that of Bernard Meninsky, one of his teachers, while with Josef Herman he shared an interest in people at work and the rhythm of their bodies, echoed by shapes in the surrounding landscape.

These paintings and drawings from the mid-Forties to the mid-Fifties have a pleasing directness and convey his love of landscape in the luscious hlues, vivid ochres and greens of the Mediterranean. Keselman's peasants and fishermen ousy themselves with everyday asks: digging the land, mending nets and tending flocks. There is a reaffirmation of humanity and life in all these paintings, but they are

In Kestelman's paintings from the



ALTHOUGH FOR the last 35 years late Fifties to the early Sixties a grad-Morris Kestelman concentrated on ual change is discernible: the landscapes tend more and more to abstract shapes and patterns, but, curiously, there is always some lingering reference to things representational.

Morris Kestelman'a first exhibition at the Boundary Gallery in London in 1989 was also the first time his early figurative and later abstract endeavours were hung together under the same roof. This juxtaposition clearly showed that his changing style followed a harmomous and almost inevitable development. Certain features remained constant: the dramatic use of sensuous and vivid cotours and a pow-

erful drive to distil the essence of life. What happened as Kestelman himself said, was that he came to the end of his figurative vocabulary. His abstract compositions were always carefully planned and within a narrow range of warm colours. Texture assumed a new importance, with powerful brushwork and several layers of thinly applied paint, thereby creating a strong sense of depth.

In their expressive distortions and superimposed images his abstract paintings contain echoes of his work as a student in the Twenties. In fact what made Kestelman such an interesting and good artist was that he never stopped experimenting.

Morris Kestelman had an inauspicious start for an artist - his parents were immigrants from Eastern Europe, and he was brought up in the Jewish East End of London. He always stood well outside English tradition and could be best described as a true European both as an artist and a person.

In 1922 he gained a scholarship to the Central School of Art where he first met Bernard Meninsky, who taught him everything he knew about drawing; and later the teacher/student relationship developed into a firm friendship. It was through Meninsky that Kestelman got involved with the avant-garde London Group - he helped organise their 1926 exhibition in which Epstein, Bomberg, Matthew Smith, Sickert, Roger Fry and Vanessa Bell all took part. He was elected to the group in 1951.

Among his fellow students were Barnett Freedman, James Fitton and the illustrator James Boswell. Among his teachers were William Roberts and A.S. Hartrick, who had known Van Gogh and Cézanne and who was perhaps responsible for awakening Kestelman's passion for French painting and for France herself which - except for the war years - he visited annually for extended periods from 1930 onwards. During his first visit he stayed in the same studio as Chaim Soutina had many years earlier, in Cagnessur-Mer

Kestelman's art training continued at the Royal College of Art. where his interest in theatre and costume design was aroused. His first attempt in this field was for The Magic Flute, performed at Birkbeck College in 1929. His next theatrical venture, to do the sets for Carmen at Sadler's Wells in 1940, was at the invitation of Tyrone Guthrie. After the war he designed a number of productions at the Old Vic including Richard III starring Laurence

Another aspect of his theatre work came about in 1937 when he was commissioned by Noel Carrington to illustrate a book on the circus. In a typically thorough way, Kestelman watched as many performances of the Bertram Mills Circus as he could. The results are a series of beautifully finished, coocise pastel drawings covering every facet of circus performances. These were sadly never published because of the outbreak of war. The originals to be be singled out from the whole



Fishermen, Blanes, by Kestelman, oil on canvas, 1956

more than a hundred of them, and Kestelman's best-selling works are all dispersed. Last year the Boundary Gallery published four se-lected circus images in a limited edi-tion print for his 92nd birthday.

During the war he applied himelf with the same thoroughness to his studies of work in an aircraft repair factory; the resulting drawings are comparable to Henry Moore's Tube shelter sleepers.

Kestelman was always sad that his abstract work never achieved the same response as his figurative work, and oothing gave him greater pleasure than the wonderful ootice he received in the Royal Academy's illustrated catalogue last year, where it was stated that if one artist were

exhibition, it would be Kestelman his four paintings in tha show were all abstract works!

However, Kestelman is unclassifiable in both periods of his career. He was a contemporary of John Craxton, John Minton, Michael Ayrton, Keith Vaughan, Robert Colguhoun and Robert MacBryde, yet Kestelman is less famous than any of them. He is one of the group of British artists who are not known sufficiently.

He was engaged in teaching throughout his working life, starting at Wimbledon School of Art and ending up as Head of Painting and Sculpture at the Central School of Art from 1951 to 1971. He exerted enormous influence on two generations of artists and was also great-

ly respected as an authority on working relationship as well as a painting. In 1956 he served with Herwarm friendship. bert Read on the jury for the Guggenheim International Paint-

ing Award in the United States. Though his teaching was fulltime, and he was only able to paint during the holidays, such an arrangement allowed him to follow his own path, and to change style in the middle of his artistic career.

Kestelman only had nine solo exhibitions throughout his long 70-year career; all were at different galleries except the last three which took place at the Boundary Gallery, in 1989, 1993 and 1995. It took some considerable persuasion to convince him to agree to the first at my (then) new gallery. It was an enormous success. We developed a good

I'm gonna raise a fuss. I'm a-gonna

raise a holler. About a-workin' all summer just-a-

Everytime 1 call my baby, try to get a

date, The boss says: "No dice son, you

gotta work a-late." Sometimes I wonder what I'm a-

gonna do. But there ain't oo cure for the

went the opening verse and chorus,

the fourth line being spoken with a

basso profundo effect.

trying to earn a dollar,

Morris Kestelman was a charming, erudite man. He was also incredibly well-read (in French as well as English) and his capacity to enjoy life was boundless except for the last 15 months, after the death of his wife. His philosophy of art had always been "to revel in the sunny side of life . . . heaven knows we all need the solace we can get from art."

Morris Kestelman, artist: born London 5 October 1905; Head of Painting and Sculpture School, Central School of Art 1951-71; RA 1996; married 1936 Dorothy Creagh (died 1997; one daughter); died London 15 June 1998.

Jerry Capehart

Eddie Cochran, co-wrote the ock 'n' roll anthems "Summertime ilues" and "C'moo Everybody".

In October 1955, Capehart came cross the young Cochran in Beil lardens, California. "I met him in a mail music store," Capehart would ell journalists later. "I was in to huy uitar picks and he was looking for uitar strings. I had been searching or someone to make demonstration ecords of my songs and the store wner introduced me to Eddie, who think was 17 at the time." Cochran and Capehart really hit

off. The singer had just formed the ochran Brothers with Hank lochran (although the two were not elated). The duo had made the witch from hillbilly music to the nore potent brand of rock 'n' roll hey had seen Elvis Presley pioneer

Capehart, who had fought in the forean war, was already a songriter of some repute. In 1951, he ad composed "Beautiful Brown lyes" and seen both Rosemary looney and the country vocalist immy Wakely take the song into the merican charts. However, Capeart's own singing career, under arious guises (including the names erry Berryhill and Jerry Neal), had ot proved as successful and he tarted using the Cochran Brothers cut demos of his songs. He also itched the recordings to prospecive record companies. When Walkin' Stick Boogie" appeared on 1e Cash label in 1956, it was creded to "Jerry Capehart featuring the 'ochran Brothers". On Ekkó, "Tired nd Sleepy"/"Fool's Paradise" was ist by the Cochran Brothers. Howver, the "square"-looking Hank eemed to be holding the other two Cochran caught teenagers' imagiack and he eventually left for nation as he performed "Twenty

ERRY CAPEHART was the pro- Capehart became Cochran's colucer and songwriter who, with writer, producer, manager and

> dio, creating and overdubbing instrumental tracks like "Guybo" (named after the bassist Connie "Guybo" Smith who played on most of the recordings) and gaining a mastery of the studio which would later stand them in good stead. They also put out the odd single hy Jewel & Eddie and the Kelly Four on Capehart's labels, Silver and Capehart Records, while Cochran supplemented his income with session dates as a lead guitarist. All the while, Capehart, convinced he had found a real gem, was hustling Cochran around the Californian music industry. American Music, a Hollywood

With his quiff, his moody look and his trademark Gretsch 6120 guitar. lashville, while Eddie went solo. Flight Rock". Little Richard, Fats

The pair spent hours in the stu-

publishing company, eventually released Cochran's first solo single, "Skinny Jim", oo their Crest label in 1956. Encouraged by this break, Capehart took the singer into the famous Gold Star studios (later used by the ace producer Phil Spector) to cut more demos. "Twenty Flight Rock" turned out well, and armed with this and three other tracks, Capehart secured a recording cootract for his charge with Si Waronker of Liberty Records who just happened to be on the lookout for his own Elvis Presley. Around the same time, Cochran was also spotted by the movie-producer Boris Petroff who booked him to provide backing music on a soundtrack. He also offered Cochran a part in The Girl Can't Help It, the John Shanklin movie featuring the ample charms of Jayne Mansfield and the crème de la crème of a new musical genre.

Capehart, right, with Eddie Cochran on stage in Los Angeles, 1956

Domino and Gene Vincent also appeared in the 1956 film, which sparked off riots and marked the beginnings of youth culture. However, the following year, while the movie was being screened around the United States, Liberty shelved "Twenty Flight Rock" as a single and decided to promote the ballad "Sittin' in the Balcony" which became a US Top 20 hit.

Subsequently, the charismatic Eddie Cochran starred alongside Mamie Van Doren in another teen

classic, Untomed Youth (1957, directed by Howard W. Kochi. The singer also toured Australia with Little Richard, the Everly Brothers and Gene Vincent and released his début album, Singin' To My Baby, in 1958. As Capehart subsequently admitted, "the selection of songs oo the first album was a broad general crosssection. We were looking and hoping that something would come out of the alhum to give Eddie more

identity as a singer."

A US Top Ten hit in 1958, "Sum-

Rockstar Records

ducer was beginning to despair of

ever following up Cochran's first hit.

after "Drive-In Show" and the next

four singles all flopped. The two fi-

nally hit their stride with the infec-

tious "Summertime Blues", one

minute 59 seconds of pure adoles-

cent angst. This track only became

the A-side after "One Minute To

One" was rejected as too similar to

Analysing the appeal of "Sum-

"Sittin' in the Balcony".

of critics.

mertime Blues" has since become a rock 'n' roll classic. It has been rereleased (in 1968, when it again made the Top Forty), has featured in movies, and has also been successfully re-interpreted by the American rockers Blua Cheer, by The Who on their masterful 1970 album Live At Leeds and, most recently, by the country singer Al Jackson.

"C'moo Everybody", Eddie Cochran's follow-up single, was crafted around a similar theme and made you want to dance just as much. As the song says, "When you hear that music, you can't sit still."

Later. Capehart would willingly explain his contribution to the recordings he supervised:

recordings he supervised:

Primarily, I was a lyricist, but Eddie also contributed words from time to time. He would start playing a lick on guitar and we'd bring the song together from a collaboration of ideas. As a general rule, on all of the records like "Summertime Blues", "C'mon Everybody", "My Way" and "Somethin' Else", in fact all the heavy rhythm items, the mainstays were Eddie, Guybo on bass and Earl Palmer on drums.

mertime Blues", written in 45 min-In 1959, Cochran was featured in By the middle of that year, the pro- utes, as Cochran played around Go Johnny Go, directed by Paul Lan-

with the catchy acoustic guitar riff dres and produced by Alan Freed, and Capehart clapped and chimed the American DJ who had coined the in with lyrics, has baffled generations term "rock 'n' roll". This time, Cochran sang "Teenage Heaven" another song he had written with Capehart, but Chuck Berry stole the movie.

The following January, Cochran came to Britain and toured with Gene Vincent. The 10-week series of concerts proved so popular that it was extended (a young George Harrison was said to have followed it around the north of England so he could learn to play like Eddie). Cochran also made four appearances on Granada TV's Boy Meet Girls. Taking advantage of a twoweek gap in the schedule, Cochran, his fiancee Sharon Sheeley and Gene Vincent planned to fly back to the States after appearing in Bristol. On the way to Heathrow, their car crashed and Cochran was thrown through the windscreen. He died on 17 April 1960. "Three Steps To Heaven" was released posthumously and

reached No 1 in Britain. Jerry Capehart later managed the singer Glen Campbell and the impressionist Frank Gorshen, who played the Riddler in the Batman television series. He also worked as a marine surveyor and studied to become an attorney. But he was always happy to talk about Cochran.

Eddie was one of the innovators of rock 'n' roll. He set standards that people are still trying to

achieve." Capehart said in 1991. Capehart was diagnosed with brain cancer a month before his death in Nashville, where he had gone to pitch a new song called Summertime Blues No 2"

Pierre Perrone

Jerry Neil Capehart, songwriter and manager, born 1929; married (two sons); died Nashville, Tennessee 7 June 1998.

Karl-Josef Hering

ARL-JOSEF Hering, the German nor renowned above all for his ortraval of Siegfried in Wagner's ing cycle, originally intended to ursue a husiness career. He took p singing "just for a lark", but ecame serious about it when his ice developed heroic proportions. After gaining experience in

anover and Krefeld, Hering was ngaged in 1966 by the Deutsche per, Berlin, and remained with ie company until 1979, when illealth forced him to retire. He then ecame landlord of the Fisher abin, an old and well-known hostel-

Berlin. There he frequently entertained his guests with a song.

Hering was born in Westonnen. Westphalia, and had already begun commercial training when he started to study with Franz Volker, a German tenor famous for his Wagnerian roles. Hering also studied with Max Lorenz, another heroic tenor. He made his début in 1958 in Hanover, where he progressed from the First Prisoner in Fidelio to Florestan, the hero of Beethoven's opera. In 1964 he moved to Krefeld and in 1966 to Berlin, where one of

ry in the Zehlendorf district of his earlier roles was Max in Der Freischütz.

In October the same year be made his Covent Garden début as Siegfried in Götterdammerung: everyone admired his voice, the kind of heroic tenor not heard in Lonlovers even invoked the name of Lauritz Melchior in comparison - but his lack of stage experience and stiff acting were also commented upon.

In Berlin the following April, Hering first sang the young Siggiried, and it became immediately obvious that he had found his perfect role. Near-

by two metres tall (around 6ft 5in) and Erik in Der fliegende Hollander in Berlin. He visited Buenos Aires the conveyed the thoughtless, badly behaved child that lies at the heart of Siegfried, while his "big, neverfailing voice unites melody and words with complete naturalness", don for many years - older opera as the late Arthur Jacobs wrote, continuing, "I really enjoy his Siegfried," So did L quite enormously, when Hering sang both Siegfrieds at

Covent Garden in September 1968. Meanwhile Hering was rapidly acquiring new roles. He sang Pedro in Tiefland at the Vienna Volksoper, Porsiful in Marseilles and, in 1969,

same year, to sing Andres in Wozzeck and Max. He added Bacchus in Ariadne nuf Naxos, Aegisthus in Elektra and Hermann in The Queen of Spades to his Deutsche Oper repertory, and in 1970 returned to Covent Garden for both Siegfrieds in what turned out to be his final visit.

Siegmund in Die Walkure took him across the Berlin Wall to the Staatsoper, while he made guest appearances all over Germany, usually as Siegfried, which he also sang in Toronto. Hering was made a Berlin

Kamniersänger in 1974: his final new role at the Deutsche Oper was the Drum Major in Wozzeck, a character for which his gigantic stature well suited him. His retirement at the age of 50 because of ill-health was a great loss to opera. At any time there are very lew tenors who can sing Siegfried; hardly any of them can sing the role the way Hering did.

Elizabeth Forbes

Karl-Josef Hering, opern singer nnd innkeeper: born Westonnen, Westphalia 14 February 1929; died Berlin 20 May 1998.



Hering in Götterdämmerung

Keith Newton

KEITH NEWTON was a distinguished, if somewhat underrated, component of one of England's finest international football teams. Indeed, there is no shortage of shrewd contemporary observers who would place the side which he graced as a stylish full-back, and which was eliminated so dramatically by West Germany from the 1970 World Cup, ahead of the more famous combination which had lifted the Jules

Rimet trophy four years earlier. In defensive mode, the tall, sparely built Mancunian was a study in quiet efficiency, an expert tackler, effective in the air and adept at intelligent interceptions, but it was his capacity for attack which illustrated his quality most vividly. At his peak he was renowned as a raiding overlapper, virtually doubling as a winger at a time when those entertaining worthies were sadly out of fashion, and no one deployed him more effective than the England manager Sir Alf Ramsey.

Newton is best remembered for what might have been a decisive contribution on a fateful day in Leon, Mexico, in 1970, when England faced the Germans in a World Cup quarter-final Galloping unstoppably down the right flank, he set up memorable goals for Alan Mullery and Martin Peters, putting his side into a seemingly unassailable position. However, Gerd Muller and company

fought back with astonishing resilience to score three times, thus dumping the holders out of the tournament. Though he was only 28 and playing for the reigning League Champions, Everton, Newton was never to represent his country again. Instead he was supplanted by a succession of younger men, as Ramsey planned for what proved to be a traumatic future, with England failing to qualify for the 1974 World Cup finals and Ramsey being sacked.

Newton began his career with Blackburn Rovers, who had spotted him as a skilful but rather ungainly insideforward in Manchester junior football. Soon after his arrival at Ewood Park he was converted into a centre-half, a role in which he excelled as he helped Rovers to win the FA Youth Cup in 1959. Clearly a professional future was beckoning for the talented youngster, but Blackburn already had a gifted rookie stopper in Mike England, and when Newton made his senior début in September 1960, in an old First Division encounter with Chelsea, it was at left-half. Thereafter he moved to left-back, where he established a regular place in 1961/62 before switching to the right flank in middecade and graduating to England's under-23 team in that position.

For several seasons Newton was an integral part of a vibrant Blackburn team, in which Bryan Douglas, Ronnie Clayton and Mike England were outstanding, and he was a major factor in an enterprising title challenge in 1963-64. But impetus was lost as the infinitely richer Manchester and Liverpool clubs gained an influence following the abolition of the maximum wage for footballers, and Rovers were relegated

In the circumstances it seemed inevitable that the classy Newton would join a more fashionable club, especially as he had stepped up to full international status, winning the first of his 27 caps against West Germany at Wembley in the February before that demor-alising demotion. However, despite frequent rumours of a transfer - notably to Nottingham Forest - he soldiered on in the Second Division until December 1969, when he was sold to the highriding Everton for £80,000.

In that be helped his new employers to lift that season's League Championship, despite missing the title run-in through injury, it proved an admirable career move. Also, it did nothing to harm his England processes to the block and the season of the life of his England prospects, the higher pro-file helping to cement his place for the 1970 World Cup tournament. But the an-ticipated lengthy spell at Goodison never materialised, due mainly to a dif-ference of opinion with the Everton man-ager. Harry, Catteriek, over Newton's ager Harry Catterick over Newton's

A study in quiet efficiency, an expert tackler, effective in the air and adept at intelligent interceptions

style of play. Newton was a cool, cultured performer who preferred passing his way out of difficult situations rather than employing the time-honoured safetyfirst method of hoofing the ball-upfield. While Catterick was by no means a slave to the long-ball game and put a high value on technique, he felt that the full-back dwelt too long in possession on occasions, and something of a rift

Possibly as a result, Newton's form became patchy he found himself in and



Newton performing for Everton in 1970

London Photo Agency

have been in his prime, and he was freed to join Burnley in June 1972. The Clarets were delighted with what they saw as a windfall and Newton justified their reaction by shining as they clinched the Second Division Championship at the end of his first Turf Moor campaign. He went on to complete six years of sterling service for the club before retiring in 1978, not long hefore hìs 37th hirthday.

Thereafter Newton, an unassuming fellow whom team-mates revered for out of the team at a time when he should his patience and affability, sampled

the non-League scene with Morecambe and Clitheroe, whom he managed briefly. After leaving the game he worked in the motor trade in

Ivan Ponting

Keith Robert Newton, footballer: born Manchester 23 June 1941; played for Blackburn Rovers 1958-69, Everton 1969-72, Burnley 1972-78; capped 27 times by England 1966-70; married (one son); died Blackburn, Lancashire

LITERARY NOTES

Politics in a different conceptual context

EXPECTING AUDEN to be a kind of political poet has sometimes confounded his readers, who find they have to search quite hard for direct comments on public events. Can it be that the poet who by his own admission barely opened a newspaper until he was 23 was, after all, someone to whom general ideas remained more attractive than particular ones; private mental events taking precedence over public ones? No indeed, but his trick is to put the political into a different conceptual context altogether, in order to make us really think

The early poem that nags at erotic love by pointing out that you might find yourself in love with Hitler is not very different from his later one which claims that his real lover is, in his Jewishness, an embodiment of the Holy Family. At one level, a poet's ideas about the world won't make very much sense. At a deeper level they take all possible worlds, and compel them into something more than sense.

His best purely political line might be the one that ends a 1938 war sonnet with choked despair:

And maps can really point to places Where life is evil now:

Nanking. Dachau. Two simple place-names, codes for mass murder. For Auden, the travelling and observing poet, newspapers were not necessary for such a line. Poets have been known to give up poetry forever in despair at the impossibility of using such facts.

Just over five years after writing that line, Auschwitz was liberated, Images of the horror preceded statistics and the images were woven into Auden's long poem of 1947, The Age of Anxiety. In it his Jewish character, Rosetta, claims that the faith of the persecuted recognises the will of God even in the most unbelievable adversity, even as "our bodies are chucked. Like cracked crocks / On to kitchen middens". But the sign of a great poet is not the ability to evoke such a newsreel reaction, nor even to lend a bold eloquence to the feelings of the refugees. It comes with the aforementioned conceptual shift, which in the case of The Age of Anxiety yielded a structural device of

extraordinary depth and power. The heroine of the poem, Rosetta, with three others whom she meets in a New

AN INDUSTRIAL Tribunal

was under no duty to consid-

er, of its own motion, a plead-

ed complaint which was not

pursued by the applicant at

The Court of Appeal allowed

the appeal of the East Hert-

fordshire NHS Trust against a

decision of the Employment

Appeal Tribunal, allowing the

appeal of Esther Mensah

against the dismissal by an

Industrial Tribunal of her com-

plaint that she had been dis-

criminated against on racial

The applicant was a well

qualified and experienced

nurse and midwife of Ghanaian

origin. Her complaint to the In-

dustrial Tribunal, made in form

IT1, related to the way in which

a hospital operated by the trust

had responded to her enquiries

about vacancies in its mid-

wifery and neonatal units. How-

ever, in form IT3, in which

the trust gave notice of its in-

tention to resist the application,

no mention was made of va-

cancies in the neonatal unit, nor

were such vacancies referred

to at a hearing for directions.

Neither side appealed against

the outcome of the directions

The Industrial Tribunal

umanimously dismissed the ap-

grounds.

the hearing before it.



Anden: the feigning tongue of poetry

York bar, conducts a spiritual quest for authenticity in a dream landscape which becomes a conceit for the human body. Anden had wanted to write a Dantesque allegory since 1932, and there is Dante aplenty in the poem (and much Kierkegaard) hut, in tribute to Rosetta and her real-life original, from whom he had borrowed a book on Jewish mysticism, the symbolism is closely modelled on the Zohar, and suggests the soul's mourning of the body in its preparation for judgement. Rosetta's final speech ends with the Hebrew prayer which translates as "Hear. O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one", and at the time of the poem's publication Auden was still ready to speculate with friends on what would happen if he were to convert to Judaism.

Elsewhere in Auden the terrible subject of the Holocaust is similarly occluded by the feigning tongue of poetry. For example, in the cabaret sketch "Alfred", the Jews are the cajoled and threatened goose; in "For the Time Being", they are the children over whom Rachel weeps "and would not be comforted because they are

It is in the best tradition of poetic indirection that Auden operates. His concern is not programmatic, but organic, Expect no posters or banners. War is the failure of politics; genocide is the failure of war. It may be impossible to write about, hut a great poet will tackle it somehow.

John Fuller is the author of W.H. Auden: a commentary' (Faber, £30)

GAZETTE

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

DEATHS

ELLIOTT: Dorothy, on Thursday
11 June 1998, peacefully, at the
Royal Marsden Hospital, Fulham
Road, London, aged 79, after a
short illness. Beloved widow of
Robert Alfred, mother of
Frances (deceased) and Robert,
grandmother of Robbie,
Katharine and Jamie; funeral
service to be held at Si Barnabas, Calton Avenue, Dulwich,
London SE21, on Wednesday 24
June 1998, at 11.30am, and afterwards at home in Dulwich.
Enquiries to Francis Buchanan
Ltd, 42 Magdalen Road,
London SW18 3NP. Telephone
01S1-874 8563.

LECTURES

National Gallery: Lynda Stephens, "Money (iii): Danae, Zeus and the Ovid Moralise", 1pm. Victoria and Albert Mnseum: Miranda Neave, "Neo-classical Ceramics",

British Museum: Luke Sison, "Medals and Coins in 17th-century Britain", 11.30am. National Portrait Gallery: Brian Davis, "Sir Edward Burne-Jones 1833-98", Wallace Collection, London

W1: David Edge, "Arms and

Armour", 1pm.

BIRTHDAYS

Miss Eva Bartok, actress, 69; Mr Peter Batty, television and film producer, 67; Mr James Bishop, writer, 69; Mr Michael Blakemore, freelance theatre director, 70; Mr Ian Carmichael, actor, 78; Mr Derek Deane, artistic director, English National Ballet, 45; Mr Carl de Winter, former Secretary-General, Federation of British Artists, 64; Mr Ian Hargreaves, former Editor, New Statesman, 47; Miss Patricia Hutchinson, former ambassador to Uruguay, 72; Mr Roy Jackson, former assistant general secretary, TUC, 70; Mr John Kelsall, Headmaster, Brentwood School, 55; General Sir Brian Kenny Governor, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, 64; Sir Dennis Landau, former chief executive, CWS, 71; Sir Paul McCartney, songwriter and former Beatle, 56; Mr Paul Mayersberg, novelist and acriptwriter, 57; Miss Alison Moyet, singer, 37; Sir Peter Phillips, former chairman, AB Electronics, 68; Miss Isabella Rossellini, actress, 46; Miss Delia Smith, cookery writer, 57.

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Sir Thomas Overhury, poet, baptised 1581; Joseph Marie Vien, painter, 1716; Robert Stewart, Viscount Castlereagh, second Marquess of Londonderry, statesman, 1769; Robert Walter Weir, portrait painter,

Goncharov, novelist and travel writer, 1812; Henry David Leslie, conductor and composer, 1822; David Popper, cellist and composer, 1846; Cyrus Hermann Kotzschmar Curtis, publisher and editor,

1803; Ivan Aleksandrovich

1850; Edward Wyllis Scripps. publisher and journalist, 1854: Miklós Vitéz Horthy de Nagybanya, statesman, 1868; Edouard Daladier, statesman, 1884; Richard Allen Boone, actor, 1916; Sammy Cahn (Samuel Coben), lyricist, 1914. Deaths: Rogier van der Weyden, painter, 1464: Sir Thomas Picton, soldier, at Waterioo 1815; William Combe, adventurer and poet, creator of "Dr Syntax". 1823; William Cobbett, writer and politician, 1835; Eaton Hodgkinson, engineer, 1861; George Grote, historian, 1871; John A. Sutter (Johann Augustus Suter). pioneer in California, 1880; Samuel Butler, writer, 1902; Robert Marion La Follette, political leader, 1925; Roald

Amundsen, explorer, lost in the Arctic, 1928; Arthur Edwin Kennelly, engineer and physicist, 1939; Douglas Robert Jardine, cricketer, 1958; Ethel Barrymore (Blythe), actress, 1959; Bruce Marshall, novelist, 1987. On this day: the English were defeated by the French under Joan of Arc at the Battle of Patay, 1429; John Ham-

pden, Parliamentarian, was

mortally wounded at the Bat-

tle of Chalgrove Field during

the English Civil War, 1643;

Community, visits the

Britain and the United States, 1812; the Duke of Wellington, allied with von Blucher, defeated the French under Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo, 1815; Waterloo Bridge, over the Thames in London, opened, 1817; Weber's opera Der Freischutz was first performed, Berlin, 1821; Adolf Hitler's book Mein Rompf was published, 1925; the first London performance of the musical show Cage Me a Peacock was staged, 1948; Egypt was proclaimed a republic, and General Neguib became president, 1953; a US air force plane crashed near Tokyo, with the loss of 129 lives, 1953; Pierre Mendès France became prime minister of France, 1954; the Sundoy Citizen newspaper was published for the last time, 1967; a Trident-1 of British European Airways crashed after take-off at London, killing all 118 people aboard, 1972; a watercolour by Turner was sold at auction for £340,000, 1976. Today is the Feast Day of St Amandus of Bordeaux, St Elizabeth of Schonau, Saints Gregory, Demetrius and Calogerus and Saints Mark and Marcellian.

war broke out between

LUNCHEONS

Barbers' Company Mr A.H. Beadles, Headmaster of Epsom College, was the speaker at the Annual Awards Luncheon of the

Worshipful Company of Bar bers held yesterday at Barber-Surgeons' Hall, London EC2. Mr A.J.B. Missen, Master, presided, assisted by the Upper and Renter Wardens. Sir John Chalstrey and Mr G.G. Macdonald, and the Deputy Master, Mr R.R.C. Bloomfield. Among those present were:

Dame Kathleen Raven, Surgeon Vice-Admird St. James Watt; Professor TR Pitt-Ford; Professor Henry Roseveare, Professor J.P. Carley; Professor Lan-rence Garey; Professor Alexander McNeissh; Professor David Williams; Professor A.J. Zuckerman; Dr. N. Flo-res; Dr. Roger Horton; Dr. Yvame Burne; Mr. D.C. Haywood; Mr. D.W. Jarrett; Mr. Vishy Mahadevan.

ROYAL SOCIETY

The Duke of Kent FRS was the guest of honour at a soirée held yesterday at the Royal Society, London SW1, on the occasion of the annual New Frontiers in Science exhibition. Sir Aaron Klug, President of the Royal Society, Lady Klug and the officers of the society received the guests. Among those present were:

in escali. Well C.

Sir Eric Ash, Treasurer of the Royal
Society, and Lady Ash; Professor Peter
Lachmann, Biological Secretary; Professor John Rowimson, Physical Secretary; Professor Brian Heap, Foreign
Secretary; The Earl of St Andrews; Sir
Andrew and Lady Huxley; Lord and
Lady Porter.

APPOINTMENTS

Mr Nicholas Easterman, Ordinary Benchers of Lincoln's Inn.

plication. No reference was made in its extended reasons to the neonatal unit vacancies. The applicant appealed to the

Mr Alan Pardoe QC and Mr Jonathan Gaunt QC, elected

EAT on the ground, inter alia. that the question relating to the neonatal unit vacancies needed further investigation. Her appeal was allowed on

hearing.

the basis that, under rule 9(3) of the Industrial Tribunals (Constitution and Rules of Procedure) Regulations 1993, had

social practice.

consider complaint THURSDAY

Tribunal not bound to

LAW REPORT 18 JUNE 1998

Mensah v East Hertfordshire NHS Trust Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Peter Gibson, Lord Justice Henry and Sir Christopher Slade) 10 June 1998

the applicant not appeared at the hearing of her complaint, the Industrial Tribunal would have been required to examine with care the terms of her IT1 and any other documentation provided. They would thus have been required to apply their minds to, and adjudicate upon, the questions raised concerning the neonatal unit vacancies, and the applicant's position should not have been different or worse because she had appeared before the

Gary Morton (Angela Sumeray, Harrow) for the claimant; Philip Reed (Osborne Clarke) for the

Lord Justice Peter Gibson said that the error of law identified by the EAT was that the Industrial Tribunal had failed to ensure that all matters contained within the ITI had been dealt with or expressly abandoned by the applicant when it came to her giving evidence. That error depended on the existence of a duty on the Indus-

allegation in the originating application unless abandoned. and to act of its own motion even if the applicant did not support the allegation hy evidence or argument.

There was no such duty in civil actions in the courts, even if the plaintiff was a litigant in person, and rule 9(3), on which the EAT had relied, did not provide a source for such a duty, since it was expressed to apply only where a party had failed to attend or be represented at the hearing. Furthermore, a long and consistent line of cases relating to unfair dismissal or redundancy gave no encouragement whatever to the existence of such a duty.

In the present case there had been a pre-hearing review to clarify the issues in the case. Had the applicant been unhappy about the outcome of the pre-hearing review, she could have appealed against it. Moreover, she had given evidence at the hearing of her application, and had chosen only to pursue her complaint about the midwifery unit. In those circumstances it could not properly be said that there had heen a failure by the Industrial Tribunal to hear the originating application.

It was good practice for Industrial Tribunals to clarify with an applicant, particularly if unrepresented, the precise matters raised in the IT1 which were or were not to be pursued. It must however be for the judgment of the particular Industrial Tribunal whether of its own motion it should investigate any pleaded complaint which the applicant was not

pursuing. Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniver-saries, in memoriam) are charged at 22 to a line (VAT charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages), which must be sub-mitted in writing, are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. Include a daytime telephone number.

The Independent's main board number is 0171-293 2000.

ROYAL **ENGAGEMENTS**

The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Life Member, opens the new Marylebone Cricket Club's stand at Lord's Ground, London NW& The Prince of Wales, President, the Prince's Trust, visits North Saints Community Centre, Luton, Bedfordshire: as President, Business in the

Jubilee Community Centre, Luton; opens the Embankment Bridge, Bedford; as Patron, the Museum of Garden History, attends an event to raise funds for the Museum at Old Warden Park, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire; and attends a seminar and hinch organised by the National Foster Care Association at Putteridge Bury, Luton. The Duke of Gloucester, Presi-

dent, Cancer Research Campaign, attends the campaign's 75th Anniversary Midsummer Celebration at the Welsh Folk Museum, Cardiff. The Duchess of Gloncester, Honorary Freeman, the Worshipful Company of Fan Makers, attends a Ladies' Dinner at Skinners' Hall, London EC4. **Princess Alexandra attends** a garden party to mark the restoration of New River

Walk, Islington, at Canonhury Grove, London N1.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the WHATEVER happened to Possla? This word origi-Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; 1st Battalion. nated, it is said, among The Duke of Wellington's Regi-Californian census-takers in the 1960s, as an acronym ment mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, for "Person of Opposite Sex Sharing Living Quar-11.30am, hand provided by the Coldstream Guards. ters". Pronounced "posslequeue", it filled a gap created when language

WORDS

trial Tribunal to hear every

WILLIAM HARTSTON Posslq n. (acronym)

Combining an endearing hint of "possum" with a touch of mock officialese, it was an ideal word to introhad failed to keep up with

Yet, as Jean Aitchison claimed in her 1996 Reith Lectures, it is not possig but "partner" that has become "the standard word for a life-companion".

How can we have abandoned the beautiful possia for the mundane "partner"? I blame the gay duce a live-in lover in a lobby. Pssslq would have way that could not offend. been too much to bear.

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give s daytime telephone number.



'We have the potential for a Bosnia-style situation'

Continued from page one to ignite the troubles; the new ones meant the hard-won levels of nationalist acceptability vanished overnight.

Nationalist confidence in the police plummeted, official surveys finding that twothirds of Catholics believed the RUC treated Protestants better than Catholics. Eightytwo per cent of Catholics wanted the force reformed. replaced or dishanded.

The man chosen to usher in a oew era of policing in Northern Ireland is former Hong Kong Governor Chris Patten. As head of a commission set up under the Good Friday agreement, his task is to provide Northern Ireland with what it has always lacked, a police service supported by all sides. The one-nation Tory is being asked to reconcile Ireland's

The task is certain to provide as many pitfalls and difficult moments as his oriental exploits. Getting it right will help to make a historic new start in Ireland: getting it wrong could sow seeds that might condemn future generations to renewed conflict.

The old Chinese curse, "May you live in interesting times", seems to have fallen on Patten during the Seventies, and is still in force. Back then be was spoken of as a future leader of the Conservative Party, but the fates were not kind, conjuring up as they did Margaret Thatcher.

His moisture content being too high for her, he was consigned to the same desert as stretch confined to minor office. What in other decades might have been an inexorable ascent towards the highest offices instead became a slow and comparatively undemanding journey through the Northern Ireland Office, overseas development and so on.

Even promotion to the Environment Ministry brought with it a fresb curse - the poll tax. Mrs Thatcher was unsurprised when Patten was one of those who advised her that she had to go, dismissing him as she did as "a man of the Left". The end of the Thatcher years seemed to promise a new era for Patten, but his part in the 1992 Major election victory was accompanied by the personally catastrophic loss of his own seat.

After his time at the Northern Ireland Office, Patten will already be aware of the complexities of the brief. It is evident that the essence of his task lies not in the technicalities of policing but its role at the beart of Northern Ireland's problems. The RUC, for all its sacrifices, for all the things it has done right, is seen as one-sided in its composition and, at defining mo-

ments, in its actions. It is the same problem that has dogged Northern Ireland itself, and which this government is now addressing through the peace process. On the agenda is not just a new form of policing, but a

new Northern Ireland. Policing reform is embedded in the Good Friday agree-

security arrangements, emergency legislation and the overall criminal justice system including the prosecution process and the appointment of judges; and so are the questions of prisoner release and arms de-commissioning.



Chris Patten, left, and Ronnie Flanagan

Add to this new administrative arrangements, which will probably put Sinn Fein into government as well as creating new north-south links, and the scope of the envisaged change becomes clear. This is the creation of a whole new political order.

the Government believes Patten's political background and Far Eastern experience fits the bill. He has brainpower, from the now slightly old-fashioned tradition of classic

His closest associate on the new commission is likely to be his friend Dr Maurice Hayes, a former civil servant with whom he worked in Belfast. In his memoirs Hayes describes Patten as "probably

other wets, and for a long ment So, too, are reviews of the best minister I ever worked with, with a Rolls-Royce mind and great political astuteness". Both are Catholic; both are on the board of this newspaper. At a press conference last week, Patten made clear that no members of the commission would be

second-largest city council to change its name from Lon-

This is presumably why experience of adversity and, perhaps most of all, he comes Tory gradual reformers.

commenting on their work. Patten's time at the NIO means he returns to Belfast with some baggage. Last time round some Unionists took exception to his Catholicism, while some of them were enraged when he allowed the

donderry to Derry. The fact that a Unionist politician threw a tricolour at him in protest against the name-change will serve as a reminder of the potency of symbol. While most in the RUC accept it is destined to shrink, the force is deeply devoted to its symbols, treasuring the Union flag and other emblems and cherishing the "Royal" in its title. Any attempt to change that name

will meet fierce opposition. Size is important, but the issue of how big the police force should be immediately reopens political questions. The RUC has 8,500 regular officers, 4,300 reservists and 2,700 civilian support staff. It seems obvious enough that the numbers can be reduced by running down the reserve and relying on natural

But finding the optimum level will take fine judgement. Everyone hopes for peace, but there is no guarantee that the IRA and loyalist ceasefires will be permanent; and even if they are, there are maverlck minor groupings out there, on both sides.

Then there is public order. be in the making but a resolution of the old marching disputes has yet to be found. hrink of all-out civil war. We kid ourselves that we live in a democracy - we have the potential in this community to have a Bosnia-style situation."

That is a sobering reminder that Northern Ireland is not totally stable. Both communities are at the beginning of the process of working out how to co-exist. There will have to be enough police in reserve to deal with sudden eruptions of disorder.

Once the question of the size of the police force has been resolved, its composition comes into focus. The trick here will be to reduce its overall strength while bringing in a sizeable number of nationalists to make it a more representative force.

But getting nationalists in appears inevitably to mean getting Protestants out. For a new force of, say, 6,000 officers to be representative, 2,000 or so should be nationalists. A quick sum shows this would mean displacing 4,400 of the present regular RUC, as well as all the reservists. The daners of this are enough to give the most ardent reformer pause, for the last thing anybody wants is large numbers of disgruntled RUC men

thrown on the streets. Then there is RUC ethos. One expert has described its culture as "stubbornly male. Protestant, British, Unionist and laddish". Thirty per cent A new Northern Ireland may of Catholics in its ranks say they have experienced religious discrimination or harassment, while half its female A senior police figure said of members say they have suf-Drumcree 96: "We were on the fered sexual harassment. It sounds as though the new

force will need a new ethos. The Government, in choosing Patten to examine all of this and in giving him very wide terms of reference, appears to be signalling that it believes widespread change is essential. A police force that is heavily Protestant, heavily armoured, highly technological and largely geared to fighting an anti-terrorist war will be out of place in a more

peaceful Northern Ireland. In turning to Patten, the Government seems to want a blueprint for gradual but farreaching reform, for a plan that will be innovative without being disruptive. Not for the first time, New Labour is finding merit in Old Tory values.

Are you aware of Awareness Week?

HAVE YOU checked your diary today? To save you the trouble, it's Pink Lady Day, the last day of British Speciality Food Month, day four of Anti Angling Week, Relief of Glaucoma Week and Green Transport Week.

It doesn't take much to merit a special day, week or month nowadays. Ramblers, naturists, biscuit dunkers and prunes are honoured, as are the left-handed, diabetics and people who snore. There's even a National Kevin Day (in honour of Kevin Costner, in case you didn't know).

Ridiculous. And now the PR "experts" responsible for turning what was once a clever idea into a tedious epidemic think so too. In what must be the apotheosis of this Nineties marketing fad, this week was also designated Awareness Campaign Week.

"The number of these awareness campaigns and the growing use of them by marketers to sell products risks confusing and boring consumers - the very people these organisations are so desperate to reach," says Robert Barclay, managing director of The Profile Group, a PR-based consultancy which publishes forward events listings. He has launched Awareness Campaign Week - you've guessed it, to raise awareness about the po-tential problem of too many

He insists there is a serious message behind the initiative. Awareness campaigns, first de-veloped by Christian Aid in 1957, were traditionally used by char-ities with limited budgets to publicise a good cause. By bagging a particular day or week, they invented a hook for the news media to address a worthy issue. It was, of course, completely free. And by picking dates during the "silly season" summer months, media coverage was virtually guaranteed as desperate news editors eagerly pounced on anything that was going on.

Never ones to miss a trick, marketing experts in big business quickly joined in, and along came National Breakfast Week 'supported by' Kellogg's, Quaker's Oats' Porridge Day and Chip Week - courtesy of those nice people at the Potato Marketing Board.

More than 375 awareness days, weeks and months will take place this year - twice the number staged two years ago And now it looks as if the notion

of awareness days may have become too popular. Response among the potential audience for these campaigns is decidedly mixed. Not only is there widespread confusion about just what's going on when and why, there's also a distinct scepticism about the value of many manufactured events.

In a random poll of a dozenpeople, 11 had never heard of Pink Lady Day while the other thought it was about drinking gin. (In fact it's a marketing wheeze to launch an Australian apple in

"I'm aware of things like Red Nose Day and Breast Cancer Week but all the other rubbish goes right over my head," says Angela, 34, a recruitment consuitant from west London. "Meaningless puff" is ber flatmate Mary's conclusion: "I don't need a topiess model to tell me to eat prunes – if I want to eat them I will." Both add that attention deflected away from a good cause by trivia and com-mercialism is a bad thing.

Mr Barclay agrees: "PR and marketers should act now to safeguard the charities and other organisations whose messages are non-commercial." He advocating an official register to encourage commercial interests to pitch their marketing weight behind rather than against charity campaigns to avoid upsets like the one caused by Wonderbra when it hi-jacked Breast Cancer Awareness Week.

We have to separate in people's minds the serious causes from the lightweight," Mr Bar-clay adds. "Very clear plugs are easy to spot but there are a number of serious campaigns which have got lost. Journalists are increasingly telling me their editorial policy is now to cover less of these campaigns because there are so many."

A formal register would also encourage organisations to guard against unfortunate clashes of events, which has been a bit of a problem. Next year, for example, National Parenting Day coincides with the beginning of National Condom Week

All of which might solve the PR people's problem - and then again, it might not. While the professionals still view such stunts as a powerful communications. tool, many consumers feel they've had their day.

MEG CARTER

CAMPAIGNS IN JUNE (QUALITY BRITISH TURKEY MONTH)

June 1-6 National Vegetarian Week Animal Pride (Day) British Speciality Food Month Pink Lady Day Grow Your Own Organic Fruit and Vegetable Campaign National Focus on Food Week

June 7 was: Amen - A Day to Pray World Naturist Day Arthritis Research Week National Diabetes Day National Cinema Day

June 15-19 Green Transport Week National Anti Angling Week British Specially Food Month For the Relief of Glaucoma Week Spinal Injuries Awareness Week Awareness Campaign Week

June 22-27 Twins, Triplets and More Week Child Safety Week Minerals Week

National Mencap Week Pensioners Day of Action National Arts Day United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture International Anti Arm Trade RNLI National Lifeboat Station

Open Day Family Rambling Day National Piers Day and National Focus on Food Week (sponsored by Waitrose)

July 24-31 National Ice Cream Week (sponsored by the ice cream alliance) clashes with National Potty Training Week

October 1 is McVitie's National Dunking Day and National Continence Day

On 13 November National Curry Day clashes with Oxfam's Big Fast_____ Source: The Profile Group

If you don't want to know, forget the scan

THERE'S A politically correct answer here. Of course we don't want to know, not because we don't want to know but because we honestly don't care. No, honestly, we don't care. No, as long as it's healthy that's all we

So perhaps the first question after the birth should be is: is the baby healthy? And the second question: what sex is it? Or perhaps, to be entirely politically correct, the midwife should refuse to answer the question of whether it's a boy or a girl, and put the baby into your arms. It would be very un-pc to peer down between its legs and take a peek. You'd have to wait until you changed its nappy before you casually discovered what sex it was, and even then the coolest mum on the ward would be the one who would take the baby home, hand it to a nanny, and never discover what sex her child was until suddenly its voice broke or it started growing the hospital knows and he

boobs at 12. There's a historically correct answer here, too. For a million years, parents have never known what sex their child is going to be until it's born. Finding out in advance is in-



IRONSIDE DILEMMAS

Carol is pregnant and preparing to go for her second scan. Her boyfriend wants to know the sex of the baby - he hates to think doesn't - but Carol wants it to be a surprise. What can they do?

terfering with nature. God didn't plan things that way. So stick to the old

But the truth is that God didn't invent the telephone or the Internet. yet it would only be the most Luddite of people who refused to communicate in these ways on the grounds that it wasn't natural. And since scans are here, what do we do?

My sympathies, being a control freak, are with Carol's boyfriend. I would just hate a handful of whitecoated strangers to know the sex of my child while I was kept in the dark. I would feel they had a closer relationship with the baby than I myself, its parent. And I would also like to know on the grounds that it would bring me closer to the baby before it was born. The more I could imag-ine it as a person rather than an "it", the fonder I would become of it. Knowing the sex of the child would make the choosing of names easier, too. What's the point of having two rows with one's partner over the choice of names when you need only

have one? I know the scan is not done purely to find out the sex of the child and is done for health reasons. But if the

information is there, I would want. What readers say: to use it. Not so that I could design the nursery as pink instead of hive. but because it would feel cosier and closer to feel I had a little giri in my womb or a little boy. As for being politically correct, it's so much nonsense. You may not care a jot which sex you have, but once you know, your attitude to the child changes, inevitably. Mothers who have tried to bring up little boys with dolls and little girls with guns, have

all failed dismally. Sex will out. If you could take health tests that would predict exactly what diseases you would get during the following year, some of which would be unpreventable, would you want to know? If you did, you'd take the test. If you didn't, you wouldn't. What you wouldn't do is have the test and ask the hospital not to tell you the results.

My advice to Carol is simple. Contrary to popular belief, aute-natal scans are not compulsory. If she decides to have one, find out. But if she wants the sex of the baby to be a secret, don't have the scan. That way, both she and ber boyfriend will be

WHEN WE were expecting our third child. I remember this: if the hospital knew the baby's gender, my busband wanted to; and if be was going to, in the end so was L We already had two daughters. Knowing that the new baby was a giri, too, enabled us to turn our minds in that direction. By the time she was born we'd become comfortable with the idea and we'd never be parents of a son. Perhaps Carol's husband badly wants a child of the other gender, a pigeon pair. Perhaps, consciously or subconsciously, he wants to have dealt with any disappointment in advance of the remaining period surrounding the birth. That would be the effect, anyway. It might be imaginative to concede in the interests of a proper welcome for your newcomer. ALISON CLAYBOURNE,

CAROUS HUSBAND should stop being so selfish and let his wife have her way on this. Knowing the sex of your child before hirth will only create false expectations

about how it should behave and what you will do. What's more, the hospital might be wrong - it has happened. Ultrasound technicians are perfectly schooled at not giving away the baby's sex. Why upset your wife to please yourself? Perhaps it's symptomatic of modern life to want to know everything immediately - will you want the hospital to ring you on your mobile phone and call you out of that planning meeting with the results? Be honest; you have a preference for the sex of the baby (a boy, I'll wager), and you hope this will confirm it. What if it's a girl? You'll mope throughout the pregnancy. A baby is not just its sex: there's a whole personality developing in there. Let it all remain a secret until the birth - because I can guarantee you that you'll be delighted with everything about your child then. And yes, I do soeak from experience. DAVID ROBERTS. London N1

MANY COUPLES feel like Carol and prefer surprises, while others prefer to know, so that they are

well prepared in advance, particu-larly if they are longing for a child of a particular sex and can prepare for one of the undesired sex at a time not coloured by the maternal 'blues' which often follow childbirth. In this instance each party holds the opposite of these two opinions; I wonder if she might think again, if it were pointed out to her that having a scan is just as "unnatural" as knowing the baby's sex in advance! DR A W F ERSKINE London NW2

AT THE Cheisea and Westminster hospital in London, around 60-70 per cent of women want to know the sex of their child. Obviously a scan is not primarily done to determine this - it is done for health reasons. If couples can't agree on whether they want to be told or not, we ask them to resolve the problem themselves and usually it is the woman who is the key person in decision making. In the vast majority of cases we would never tell on one and not the other. DR ZOE DUNN Consultant Obstetrician

Bermuda's crimefree good life has been shattered by the death of Liz Cadell. Now friends are asking: did her boyfriend ignore her cries for help? And could he have saved her? By Sharon Krum

mong those who know, or believe they know, Bermuda is shorthand for the good life. Sun. Crystal blue water Vanilla-coloured sand. Tax haven. Sixty thousand residents, and barely a crime. A slice of paradise colonised by Britain, complete with Marks & Spencer, red letter boxes, and a pub called the Robin Hood

Talk about Bermuda with any one of her 8,000 British expatriates and you will also hear nothing but enthusiasm. For ambitious bankers, journalists, and businessmen prepared to work hard, there are glistening rewards. The career trajectory can be rapid, particularly for British journalists, a successful stint on Bermuda's daily newspaper The Royal Gazette is often viewed as a stepping stone to Fleet Street

Berkshire-born Liz Cadell knew this when she arrived in Bermuda in 1988 to work on the Gazette and its sister weekly, The Mid Ocean News. Regarded as bright, smart and ebullient, Cadell, a keen sportswoman, was also considered a sharp reporter and sub-editor. "She was very down to earth, pragmatic, a lot of fun," said a colleague who asked not to be identified, "I sat next to Liz for a few years. She was a very vivacious girl. I never saw a darker side, and in the newspaper business you work very closely."

She appeared that way to everyone who knew her. And yet on May . 31 last year Liz Cadell, aged 33, took 150 aspirin and died of an overdose.

Her death followed the end of ber engagement to British police officer Tony Bukhari. Last week, just over a year after her death, Bukhari, 32, was charged with manslaughter by negligence.

The woman who made a living writing about the exploits of others became a headline, and the story has been the subject of talk among the

At the core of all discussion is not just the tragic loss of Cadell, but the extraordinary legal issues surrounding the charge against Bukhari. He has not been charged with committing a pre-meditated crime, hut rather, failing to act. Police allege that in his failure to respond to Cadell's calls or seek medical help, he is culpable.







The Mid Ocean Golf Club, left, epitomises life in Bermuda; of which Liz Caddell, above and

A lonely death in paradise

years ago, when she arrived in Bermuda to work as a reporter, and carved a name for herself covering sports stories.

Cadell, a keen tennis player and netballer (she captained the Gazette tennis team), was, said colleagues, well regarded among the sporting

After meeting Bukhari, the Cheshire born son of a Pakistani father and English mother, she moved in with him in 1991.

"They were a really happy cou-," says her Gozette colleague, who added that she had never heard, as was subsequently reported, that Liz's relatives did not fully accept him. "The couple were popular, hut there weren't part of Bermuda's party-goer scene. They socialised amongst his friends and

The British expat scene functions on two levels in Bermuda: professional class (reporters, bankers, police) and entrepreneurs who relocate to Bermuda as a tax haven.

Among the former, Cadell and Bukhari were well liked. Life for Brits in the UK's oldest colony is

touchy about reports which described them as "spoilt"), and despite being 600 miles from the US east coast, Bermuda's culture and economy are quintessentially British.

According to friends, both Bukhari and Cadell felt very at bome there, and Bob Anes, a Gazette sub-editor and close friend of Cadell's, said the couple were devoted to each other.

"They were very affectionate. I saw them at a party a year before her death and he never left her side. Tony was very attentive to Liz."

Her colleague adds: "When I knew Liz, her relationship with Tony seemed to be going smoothly. There was no trouble until the last year, when it became clear things not be all she wanted, but then all relationships ebb and flow. I know she wanted to marry Tony, return to London and work in antiques. She did not plan to return to newspa-

In fact, unbeknown to Bukhari, in the year before her death Cadell began an affair with a Gozette colleague. "Most people knew of the af-

The story of Liz Cadell begins ten comfortable (although they are fair but tried to keep it quiet because they knew she was living with Tony."

According to a report submitted to the inquest in March 1997, Bukhari learned of the affair after the couple became engaged. "Whilst on holiday in May 1997, Miss Cadell confided to Bukhari that she had been involved in an affair for approximately one year, Bukhari's response was to call off the wedding."

Friends have said that Cadell did become more quiet at work, but they did not ask questions. "I was not aware the wedding was off, she was private about those matters," said

Then Cadell was found naked and dead in the bedroom of ber Harvey Hill Road flat on May 31, with part of the phone cord around her neck. left which read: "I know I've let you down badly, I don't think there is any way I can make it up to you. So perhaps it is best if I disappear and let you get on with your life without me."

When Bukhari was later interviewed by police, he told them he had finished a shift at midnight, gone drinking, then to the home of another friend, where he stayed until 4.30am,

before returning home. He told police that he had woken at 11am, and Cadell had told him she had swallowed 150 aspirin at 8,30am. He advised ber to drink salt water and make herself vomit. He said she seemed to have recovered, and they made love at 1pm, after which he went out jogging. In his police statement he said that on his return,

Cadell was dead. It emerged that Cadell had paged Bukhari three times during the night, and he had not responded. At the inquest parts of Bukhari's version of events were disputed.

Dr Valerie Rao, a pathologist with the Dade County Medical Examiners office in Florida, gave evidence that Bukhari's claim that he made love to Cadell at 1pm could not o'clock in the afternoon." And she added signs of aspirin poisoning are obvious. "If she had been taken to the hospital, she could have sur-

The inquest was also told that Bukhari had completed a first aid course and knew not to induce vom-

iting in cases of overdose. The court learned that Bukhari

attempted suicide after Cadell's death. Friend and police officer David Allen testified that he rushed Bukhari to hospital earlier this year after he swallowed 40 pills and left a suicide note in his police barracks accusing authorities of "stitching me

"Ever since Liz's death be just wasn't his normal self," said his friend. "He used to mention bow upset he was. He couldn't believe Liz had done this and be found it difficult to accept that she wasn't going to be around."

Before the inquest concluded however, the Attorney General decided to charge Bukhari with manslaughter by negligence. Bukhari was charged in Hamilton Magistrates Court, bailed on US\$10,000, ordered to surrender his passport, and report to police three times a week. A trial is expecied to be scheduled for late in the

Unable to return to Britain, Bukhari is also without employment. His lawyer Delroy Duncan confirmed that Bermuda police have

not renewed his contract. Duncan, who is also a British ex-

patriate, said his client's defence rests on the question of whether Bukhari owed Liz Cadell a duty of care in the circumstances. He maintains that Bukhari was not liable, and

was therefore not guilty of neglect. Duncan said today Bukhari is hearing up well, considering be faces up to 20 years in prison for failing to respond to his girlfriend's

"He has been depressed, distraught. He considered their relationship a good one, and he still intended to marry her. He told me he wanted a break, and did intend to renew the relationship."

Cadell, too, had been intending to marry. She had changed her will to make Bukhari the beneficiary to her £200,000 estate. The will was later her family.

As for the expat community galvanised by this case, they are, despite the busy rumour mill, not taking sides, according to Gary Sheppard, owner of the Robin Hood pub. 'I believe the Brits here know there is a discrepancy in the stories, and all they really want to know is the truth.

No. 002967 of 1998

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

CHANCERY DIVISION COMPANIES COURT

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AND IN THE MAFTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

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presented to Flox Majesty's High Court of
Justice for the confirmation of the

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AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Registrar of the Companies Court at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London We2D, 2LL on Wednesday the 24th June 1998.

ANY recitors or shareholder of the Company desiring to coppose the tasking of an Order for the confirmation of the resid enhanced of crains the best streets.

he time of the manning.
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A copy of the said Petition will be femiliable to any such pezzon requiring the wadermentioned solicitors on

Dated this 11th day of June 1998

POETIC LICENCE

Thousands of citizens branded as subversive by MI5 will have the right to see their files when changes to the Data Protection Act become law this autumn. Files held are thought to include those on members of CND, the Trade Unions, The Labour Party and Amnesty.

FILES PAST

I knew someone Who Knew Someone Who once joined CND They kept a file on her And they kept a file on me With this they would have reasoned From information known She must have been subversive And so they tapped her phone

She read a lot of books So they kept a file on that They filmed her going shopping And they photographed her cat And they noted that at Greenham She wore a woolly hat So finding this of interest They filed it all on DAT*

And what I most remember Around the Thatcher years Was rampant paranoia In people with careers The teachers and the lawyers

And civil servants too: "They must be tapping me They might be tapping you." And when I asked them, Who? They told me it was MI5 Sometimes GCHQ

How flattering, I marvelled When ordinary chaps Are glamorous subversives And worthy of such taps But then how disappointing To read those files they feared And see: He goes on demos. He used to have a beard Is not considered harmful Attends a Labour Club He's big on cheap polemic You'll find him in the pub...

DAT=digital audio tape

Martin Newell

CLASSIFIED

'A Spanking Good Read'

For Sales



'I haven't got what it takes to be a harlot... Glenda Cooper, The Independent, 11 May 1998

Recently broadsheet newspapers have bees examining a rather different kind of journal which has just gone on sale in certain selected newspapents and bookshops: The Eratic Review. It has proved so popular that, within a few days, Waterstone's had reordered and the

Their correspondents speak about the spicy writing - by Contributors such as Auberon Waugh, Michael Bywater, Maria Alvarez and Barry Humphries - and explicit illustrations, some of which are searingly crotic. The May/June issue is out now. Bi-monthly and expanded for the first time. As a special offer to Independent readers we invite you to subscribe to the next three issues of The Erotic Review for just £5.00 including (discreet) p&p and receive this issue free.

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9.00 pm and 2.00 am on Mondays to Sabredays froth days inclusives of each and every week.

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The fine art of missing the point

It's fight arranger Nick Hall's task to turn Romeo and Juliet into War and Peace. By Louise Levene

"I LEARNED this morning that they want blood." Which is funny, really, because drawing blood is precisely what the fight arranger Nick Hall strives to avoid.

Advance publicity for English National Ballet's all-thrusting, all-dancing Romeo and Juliet at the Albert Hall had hinted at dozens of sword-fighters. Hall knocked that on the head straightaway. "We can't have that many, from the point of view of safety." So how many has he got? Er, six: Romeo, Mercutio, Benvolio, Tybalt and Tybalt's two friends. Wait a minute. I didn't think Tybalt had any friends." They are characters that Derek has created."

"Derek" is Derek Deane, artistic director of ENB. Although freely admitting he's no Balanchine, Deane has realised that if he does the choreography himself he can save ENB a fortune. He has knocked out a series of popular hits. The most recent was his high-glucose Nut-cracker and before that we had his infamous Swan Lake in the round which boasted 60 swans bourrée-ing in formation. This year he's aiming to repeat that popular success with Romeo and Juliet. A massed display of synchronised fencing would have been impractical, so we must settle for a handful of hallet dancers eating up space in Nick Hali's carefully choreographed sword fights.

Deane has clearly picked the right man for the job. At 49, Hall looks wiry and dangerous in his black hiker's leathers. He has an impressive record, with the likes of Kenneth Branagh's Renaissance Theatre Company, the RSC and the Royal Opera, and some particularly relevant experience at the Manchester Royal Exchange, where has worked on and off for the last 10 years. This knowledge of theatre in the round has proved invaluable preparation for the Albert Hall: "I learned quite a bit about keeping things moving." he says. But fencing to music was a whole new headache.

In Romeo and Juliet Prokofiev really does call the shots. The signature tunes are every bit as clearcut as Peter and the Wolf and the score spells out the scenario. "In the theatre I generally talk to the director, then create the fight with the actors based on character. Here the music dictates; there's very little leeway at all. You can cut across it here and there, but even that only works if you stay with it the rest of the time."

The dancers can't work without music: "Normally you work it out very slowly - walk it, walk it, walk it - but that's not the most comfortable way for dancers to work. They want to hear the music as soon as possible - often before they know all the

Even without the music there is a world of difference between a regular stage fight and a ballet fight. The trend in Shakespearean and Jacobean rep has been away from the regimented thrust-andparry of the old school towards a looser, uglier, more realistic style:

"It's much more like warfare." in the old days actors knew the moves off by heart: "Routines were handed down: the 'Glasgow Eights' was a series of eight moves - backhand shoulder, parry shoulder etc. - then you'd repeat it reversing the moves. People would say 'We'll do



These corny old sequences were safe, but incredibly predictable and not terribly exciting."

That said, too much rough and tumble would be inappropriate in a ballet fight. Musical swashbuckling is necessarily more stylised and variety is less important. "In ballet repetition is not necessarily a bad thing, and you have to keep it simple" - particularly wben you have a different cast every night and only three-and-a-half weeks' rehearsal.

When he directed the fights in Romeo and Juliet at the Royal Exchange, Hall worked with the same four men throughout; at ENB nightly cast changes mean that he's working with 20 dancers. A single torn ligament can throw the entire casting schedule out of whack and create unexpected problems: "One of the Mercutios is very short, and the Tybalts are all shapes and sizes."

Fortunately dancers are adaptwho are well used to memorising complicated enchainements. Although competitive fencing is no longer a compulsory part of the ballet curriculum, the basic moves come quite naturally to them. In a "linear advance" (those scurrying runs when one swordsman chases another across the stage while trying to poke him with a rapier! the fencer should keep his feet well apart so that he can move easily in any direction. A dancer's "turn-out" (the

the 8s, then the 10s, then the 7s'. splay-footed stance acquired after called in to train performers from years of training) is ideal for this. "The most important things in a fight are balance and timing, and they are terrific at that. We have taken advantage of their athleticism: ask

them to leap and suddenly - swoosh! - they're 5ft in the air." As any Saturday-afternoon couch potato knows, no sword fight would be complete without a serious bit of furniture-jumping Mercutio will be doing a back somersault onto a market stall, but apart from this the Albert Hall is not well served in the table-turning department - "there's not a great deal of set, and no levels" - which means, sadly, no staircase duel à la Basil Rathbone and Errol Flynn in The Adventures

of Robin Hood. Rathbone, whose career began on the British stage, grew up in a tradition where fencing was part of an actor's basic training and was an accomplished swordsman but - as Hall is quick to able, movement-literate performers point out - "a lot of those Hollywood actors could do it, but they still had fight directors and fencing coaches."

Fencing is still taught in drama schools (Hall himself teaches at the Central School of Speech and Drama and at the E15 acting school) but it is less relevant than it was. The days when every young actor earned his spurs doing years of Shakespeare in rep are long gone - elegant swordplay is unlikely to land anyone a bit part in EastEnders. Besides, the likes of Nick Hall can always be

scratch.

He's not alone, of course. There's a whole guild, the British Academy of Dramatic Combat, whose aim is to promote good technique and, more important, safety. Even with dummy blades things can get pretty nasty. Only last year the Royal Bal let's William Trevitt had a chunk sliced off his knuckle during the duel in Romeo and Juliet. Did he rush to the wings to get some Steri-strips and a squeeze of Germolene? Did he hell! He carried on regardless, brandishing his bloodstained fist at the

victorious Tybalt. Blood certainly makes great theatre - bence Derek Deane's decision to add to the laundry bill. "Derek said he wanted it to be brutal and vicious, so we're trying for a degree of realism."

It turns out that Prokofiev's music for the fight scenes is firmly anchored in the grisly realities of combat. When Mercutio is stahbed by Tybalthe recovers suddenly and does a little dance. This had always seemed a hit daft to me, but apparently this is exactly how rapier wounds behave: "The flesh teods to close around the blade. There's quite often a short delay before the blood starts to flow." Hall's job is to make sure that toolght's bloodstains are all strictly ketchup.

'Romeo and Juliet', Royal Albert Hall (0171-589 8212), to 30 June

Great Swashbucklers Of The Movies



1. Romeo and Juliet (Franco Zeffirelli 1968) The fights were arranged by William Hobbs, to whom all fight arrangers owe a debt of gratitude. His fights were far more realistic for the weapons concerned (rapier and dagger). Quite often, a fight will use moves that are not possible with that style of weapon - much of the choreography is based on modern fencing sabre moves. A lot of Hollywood film fights were arranged by people who were very adroit with the sabre. Not authentic, but very entertaining. 2. The Duellists (Ridley Scott 1977) A long series of duels fought with sabre between two army officers (Keith Carradine and Harvey Keitel),

The Pirate (Vincente Minnelli 1948). Gene Kelly did a great sequence, across the rocks into the sea. It was a feat of endurance, even breaking it down into several takes means a lot of hard work. 4. Royal Flash (Richard Lester 1975). A lovely fight , with great gags. Alan Bates is making a sandwich during the fight - cutting a bit off a sausage, a bit

off the bread. A great comedy fight by William Hobbs. 5. The Adventures of Robin Hood (William Keighley and Michael Curtiz 1938). I love Basil Rathbone (above left); you really believe he's going for it. That's what makes a good fight: when they believe they can kill each other.

Life's a gas for the laid-back doctor

"DRAMATIC IT isn't," wrote my colleague Robert Maycock a decade ago of a concert sketch Gavin Bryars composed for Doctor Ox's Experiment, based on a little-known Jules Verne story. After a further year's delay owing to funding crises. the opera received its world premiere at the Coliseum on Monday. The composer's style having apparently settled itself in for the duration as the ultimate in laid-back nonchalance, could its melancholy melodies and smoothy jazz harmonies sustain an evening in the

theatre? Bryars is nothing if not treatment of Medea with Robert Wilson behind him. Verne's tale - of maybem brought to the Flemish town of Quiquendone by a scientist, Doctor Ox, through his efforts to energise its previously lethargic citizens by dosing them with a mysterious "oxhydric" gas - is a very clever choice, if these days making a rather obvious parable. It gives the composer every justification for filling most of the first act tura Bottone boldly took on recent concert pieces.

OPERA DR OX'S EXPERIMENT COLISEUM

with music sometimes so laidback that it's propped up only by the wit and characterful colours of Blake Morrison'a text and some well-uphoistered orchestration.

For almost an hour, the guiescence of Quiquendone is broken only by the rising tide of the machinations of Ox and his somewhat unwilling assistant, Ygene. An expert at conjuring fresh timbres from his fairly canny; he also has an operatic . modest vocal as well as orchestral resources, Bryars makes his two pairs of lovers counter-tenors and high sopranos, and underpins the opera's love interest with the lazy, crazy sounds of an amplified iazz double hass. These effective ploys could surely have been further enhanced by making more of the "early music" sounds spearheaded by the oboe d'amore. But as Ox. a tenor, the excellent Bonaven-

the main responsibility for eolivening the proceedings. Thank goodness the composer evectually decided against using Tom Waits). The surprise is that Bryars

makes such a success of the en-

suing action, which demands. and receives, quicker changes of mood and tempo and the establishment of a real dramatic momentum. Act One ends with a fast-forward staging of Act Four of Les Huguenots (a performer of which is the subject of Ox's first experiment), in which Meyerbeer's original is pulverised to splendid effect. And in the much shorter Act Two - in which decadence and violence get their comeuppance - Bryars offers genuinely dramatic variety and control of pace as well as atmosphere. Outside the Meyerbeer spoof, I wasn't sure what he was up to with a score whose approach to quotation and irony in a somewhat fin-de-siècle 19th-century context is rather elliptical. But the results, oddly compelling in the theatre, work much better than do some of the composer's



David James and Valdine Anderson

Atom Egoyan's production deals imaginatively with all this, his slender physical resources - a few ladders, some ropes, little more than a kind of electric fire to conjure up Ox's pliant and evocative ensemble work (from chorus as well as solo singers) and, notably, by Rick Fisher's evocative lighting to supply a suitably ambiguous

range of narrative modes. Sandy Powell's costumes for the townsfolk resemble bedspreads, but perhaps that's appropriate. Amidst a sterling cast, David James and Valdine equipment-enhanced by some Anderson as the main lovers must also receive particular mention. In the pit, James Holmes secured strong vocal and orchestral contributions.

RAP SO long the thief of black music's fertile beritage, has suddenly discovered it has a history all of its own. What else could explain the resurgence of all things hip hop?

High-street shops are groaning with haute couture instead it chose to water down evolutions of track suits and trainers last seen in East Coast America's dodgiest housing projects, and those old school warriors, Run DMC, only recently relinquished their stranglehold on the charts with Beastle Boys collaborator

Jason Nevins. It would be tempting then, to look to one of rap's longeststanding and most innovative acts to preside over this rejuvenation. De La Soul's 1989 album 3ft High and Rising was the form's high point, a jokey intuitive classic, every bit as characteristic of the year as the Stone Roses' eponymous

début across the Atlantic. The Daisy Age that the threesome were said to have heralded, proved to be nothing more than a hrief respite in rap's decline. De La Soul offered rap an ironic, cerebral fu-

POP DE LA SOUL JAZZ CAFÉ LONDON

Rap's coming home

ture at the start of the Nineties: the politicised scaremongering of more vitriolic groups such as NWA, credited for keeping their coruscating rants "real". The Daisy Age was never

going to survive gangeta rap's scathing nihilism, a fact that the group themselves recognised in their disastrous second album, De La Soul is Dead.

True to the prevailing mood in hip hop, the trio mounted a rootsy, stripped-down show last night. Free of flowery imagery, they performed with a grand piano propping up their record decks. Rap, they seemed to be saying, is coming home.

Posdunos, Dove and Mace were joined by another rapper and this addition seemed to sum up their refreshing attitude. De La Soul - while they've learnt how to party still appeal to your hetter nature. The quartet rattled

through 3ft High and Rising, not to get their best known hits ("Me, Myself and I" and "Hey, How Ya Doin") out of the way, hut to get feet moving.

The fundamentals of hiphop performance were there: the crowd participation, the good-time rhetoric. But they are still the only rap group you would take your mum to see.

In a sly dig at the misogyny notoriously peddled by Prodigy, De La Soul showed their liberal credentials: "Smack my hitch up? I never did it." It's hard to believe this vibrant hunch were responsible for

the mordant "Stakes is High". If De La Soul sound like social workers who found a microphone, they aren't. Other groups - Arrested Development and A Tribe Called Quest - inherited De La Soul's original intelligence, a succession that seems to suit them.

De La Soul are playing the Jazz Café, London NW1, tonight and tomorrow. This review appeared in later editions of yesterday's paper

MIKE HIGGINS

FILM

The angel who fell to earth



RYAN GILBEY

CITY OF ANGELS DIRECTOR: BRAD SIBERLING STARRING: NICOLAS CAGE. MEG RYAN, DENNIS FRANZ RUNNING TIME: 114 MINS

NOW THAT PLANS for Tim Burton's stab at a Superman film have been indefinitely postponed, it looks like Nicolas Cage will be denied the chance to wear his underpants outside his trousers (though if he chooses to exercise this right in the privacy of his own home, that's no concern of mine). For the time being, his role in City of Angels will provide some consolation. Although the picture cites Wim Wenders' Wings of Desire as its progenitor, the real inspiration for the film's dramatic dilemma lies in a far less prestigious source. When Seth, the angel played hy Cage, puzzles over whether or not to exchange his divinity for domestic bliss with a mortal woman, he's following in the footsteps of the Man of Steel, who turned in all that saving-the-world poppycock to go shopping for household nick-nacks with Lois Lane in Superman II.

Seth's experiences aren't a whole lot different from Superman's; he too is introduced to mortality with a sound thrashing, and gazes in astonishment at the blood which pearls on a fresh wound. It's fitting that the picture should echo such low-brow entertainment, because it always struck you that Wings of Desire would have been more tolerable as a vulgar Hollywood tearjerker than as a sombre European art movie. What innocent pleasures it did offer were contained in Wenders' use of a divided Germany as the backdrop to a tug-of-love between heaven and earth. Los Angeles, where City of Angels is set, doesn't carry the imposing history of Berlin. though the location is appropriate in going to swap perfection for fallibility, you may as well do it in LA. And though the city might not be cleaved in two by a wall, it has its own divisions, its own haves and have nots. as anyone who has tried to land a table at Spago will readily attest.

The film doesn't make a very convincing case for LA as a spiritual playground, but it has a go. The angels who frequent the city mope around in 7-Elevens, stride across rooftop helipads or perch on scaffolding, kicking their heels. In one splendidly indulgent shot, there's even a few of them milling about on the "Hollywood" sign. At dusk, they all congregate on the beach in silent prayer, an image which is supposed to be lyrical but prompted



He's played an alcoholic, a vampire and even Cher's boyfriend, so why shouldn't Nic Cage cut it as an angel?



Down to earth: Ryan and Cage in 'City of Angels'

thoughts of Invasion of the Body Snatchers. All told, there doesn't seem much of a case to be made for angelic status. The pluses are negligible. You get a regulation black overcoat. You're not subject to fines for overdue library books. And you can travel at the speed of thought. which would be handy unless you were Charlie Sheen, in which case it would take an eternity to get downtown and back.

As an angel, you can also dip into people's minds. The device of internal eavesdropping has to some extent been devalued by over-familiarity in the 11 years between Wings of Desire and City of Angels. in which time it has been appropriated by pop videos, Gillian Wearing's photographic collection Signs That Say What You Want Them to Say, and an ad for a nutty snack-bar. And besides, the extras in the movie are all so maddeningly virtuous that they take the fun out of mindreading. One young fellow is caught thinking "When a woman decides to sleep with a man, there is no wall she won't scale". A date with him would be a real whizz. Another chap, held at gunpoint, thinks "I'll never get to see my grand-children". Nobody here curses; no one grapples with unchecked passions. It's as though LA is trying to reinvent itself in the image of Walton-on-the-Naze. You'd never guess that this city had been home to the Simpsons: Don and OJ, that is.

In the role of Maggie, the mortal who tempts Seth down from the eds. Meg Ryan fits perfectly into this airbrushed LA. Maggie is a surgeon who plays Jimi Hendrix tapes while she operates, and devotes her lunchhreak not to a quick fag on the stairwell hut to a tour of incubators. After failing to resuscitate a patient, Maggie starts entertaining hilosophical questions, though only in the same casual manner that she weighs up whether to use jalapeno or rosemary olive oil. Looking into Seth's eyes with an expression that is either love or bad wind, she whines "I don't understand the god who could let us meet when there's no way we could be together." Never mind Auschwitz or Hiroshima: Maggie is mad at God for having decreed that she must wander the aisles of

Ryan's kookiness has been toned down for the part; now her line readings work on you like anaesthetic instead of shock treatment. Her curis are fixed in place, and her expression of bemused wonderment seems lacquered too. Nicolas Cage might seem a peculiar choice to play a walking embodiment of goodness, but if the genre can countenance George Burns as the Creator in the Oh God! films, then there's room for an actor who has been cast as a vampire, an alcoholic and even Cher's boyfriend. So it's doubly disappointing that, for the first time in his career, Cage seems caged. There's a chilly tinge to his early appearances, as you realise that his arrival signifies imminent death, the way Jack Palance always used to, but Cage hasn't been directed to do anything more than swing his morose Bassett Hound features from side to side. Only once does he burrow deeper, with a yearning gaze which perfectly captures the frustration of a man who can watch a woman bathing, and eveo time into her fantasies about him, and yet not even feel her skin under his fin-

made one previous picture, Casper, which was also about people reconciling themselves to mortality. But that was a children's film, and Silberling hasn't noticeably adjusted his approach for City of Angels. He still sees death as a state where you are simply on one side of a glass partition as opposed to the other. This will undoubtedly be a balm to less searching viewers, but Silberling's intentions are rootless. When A Matter of Life and Death was released in 1946, the film's vision of heaven as like earth, only in monochrome, comforted viewers whose loved ones had been claimed by war. With its studies of crowded freeways where each lonely driver is cocooned in a separate world, City of Angels seems at first to be tapping into the vague anguish caused by pre-millennial jitters. But in its final half-hour, the movie succumbs instead to the dizzy rush of melodrama. inviting a new generation to experience the kitsch thrill that their parents and grand-parents got from the Shangri-La's singing Leader of the Pack".

The director Brad Silberling has

ALSO SHOWING

Dreams with the Fishes Finn Taylor (18) **Savior** Peter Antonijevic (15) ■ The Last Time i Committed Suicide Stephen Kay (15) ■ Point Blank John Boorman (15)

Laughing all the way to the grave

Take an uptight suicidal loser preparing to throw himself off a bridge. Add a junkie with a month to live and a headful of hedonistic fantasies that he's 'a glorious acid-trip sequence in determined to realise on his way to the grave. Give them a few weeks on the road together, stir in a sprinkling of zany supporting characters and leave to simmer until the inevitable tearful farewell. Serve with sick-bag at the ready.

Perhaps it's the realisation that Dream with the Fishes could so easily have been a nightmare that makes its success seem refreshing and deserved. A movie about two young men learning to live in the shadow of death has no right being witty, effervescent and adventurous, but Dream with the Fishes is all of these things. Rather than taking his cue from tearjerkers like Hawks, the writer-director Finn Taylor combines the salty irreverence of The Last Detail with the woozy non-sequiture of Drug-March", though it's plucked store Cowboy to create a work out on an electric guitar. And

HERE'S A recipe for disaster. that seems not so much scripted as daydreamed. The picture is shot in frazzled, bleached-out colours; the whole film seems hallucinatory, not least during which a straight-arrow cop unwittingly imbibes a multiple dose of microdots and has a Mexican stand-off with a rack of doughnuts.

The film consistently smothers sentimentality before it has a chance to flourish, and the cast are instrumental in this. As the terminally ill Nick, Brad Hunt is aggressively vivacious, and the glee with which he plunges into his fantasies, whether it's nude bowling or nude bank robbery, is very winning. In the role of the potential straight-man Terry, David Arquette mines the rich comic possibilities contained in his mixture of naivety and indignation. When it's time to get serious, Taylor knows how to temper the drama with abourdity. Yes, we get the "Funeral



The hallucinatory 'Dream with the Fishes'

wheeled on, the script concentrates on those pressing matters that might distract you on the cusp of extinction - not the meaning of life, but the names of the Seven Dwarves.

There are also plenty of unexpected giggles in Savior, though given that the film is set in war-torn Bosnia, we should assume that they are mostly unintentional. In a bizarre precredits sequence. Dennis

when the death-bed is finally Quaid loses his wife (Nastassja Kinski) and son in a Paris bomb blast, then avenges their death by gunning down a row of Muslims at prayer. The next thing you know, Quaid is a hired gun for the Serbs, shaking his head at various atrocities. When he sighs "This war sucks," you'd better cherish

> only shot at characterisation or political commentary. Savior is produced by Oliv-

the line - it's the film's first and

er Stone, and bears all the first appeared in 1967, the same worst trademarks of Stone's own films. The horror of war is measured only in the extremity of torture, with mutilated victims served up for our delectation like macabre entrées at a cannibals' banquet. I might feel guilty for laughing at something with so grave a subject matter were the whole film not soulless and calculating. It wants your tears, but deserves only your jeers.

Doesn't Keanu Reeves look like Tony Slattery these days? The thought struck me while watching him trying not to bump into furniture in his supporting role in The Last Time I Committed Suicide. Heaven knows there wasn't much else to think about during this mannered and vacuous dip into the life of the Beat poet Neal Cassady, played by Thomas Jane. The film just assembles the same old Beat Generation clichés: hlue smoke, white vests and hlack coffee, maaan.

John Boorman's Point Blank, re-released this week,

seem ahead of our time too, in their use of violence as an expression of character rather than to generate excitement. In Boorman's brooding Point Blank, Lee Marvin is Walker, the heavy who stomps around LA looking for the partner who gunned him down. But it's a stark, gloomy quest 'Stunning' which can only compound Walker's feelings of impotence and alienation; as he stalks parking lots and corridors, his clicking footsteps ring out like a metronome counting down the seconds to death. Boorman's dexterous manipulation of the fractured narrative en-

All films on general release from tomorrow RYAN GILBEY

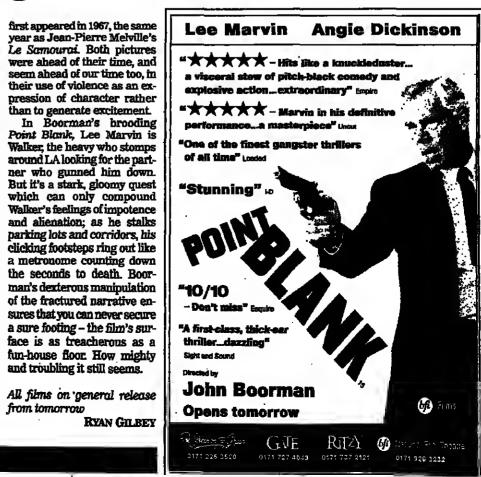
and troubling it still seems.

rolled-up, no-holds-barred fight to the finish between God's representatives and Satan'

CATHERINE VON RUHLAND

TALKS ABOUT 'THE EXORCIST'

'What we have in 'The Exorcist' is a sleeves-



The grandaddy of screen monsters is back in town. James Mottram talks to the actor Jean Reno about playing number two to a giant digitised lizard, while Joseph Gallivan asks whatever happened to good old rubber puppets



The new Godzilla is a large, lithe lizard, 'animated' by digital effects. But ultimately, film-goers are still going to look for the joins

Godzilla: my part in his downfall Assassin, Reno welcomed the me when I act.

other cultures. It is like a mille-feuille you have a base level which you never lose." Life may indeed be like a bon-bon for France's increasingly iconic Jean Reno.

Usurping Gallic cinema's elder statesman, Gerard Depardieu, as France's premier export to the US, Reno's own hrand of laconic cool is ripe for American consumption.

Reno is the natural successor to the chic Sixties style of Alain Delon and Jean-Paul Belmondo. He has starred in his country's most successful film, Les Visiteurs, the timetravel comedy that outgrossed Jurassic Park in France.

More important, unlike Depardieu - last seen in the abysmal Man in the Iron Mask - he has cracked Hollywood. A traitor sporting red hraces in Brian De Palma's update of Mission: Impossible, Reno was equally at home in Lawrence Kasdan's lightweight French Kiss. About to star in Godzilla, the summer's biggest piece of popcorn, and

In a mixture of French and English, (two of the five languages he speaks), the words pour out as he defends his choice to play second fiddle to a 20-storey reptile: "If you don't want to do Godzilla, don't do it, but I know that doing it will lead to a dozen scripts. We've already contracted to do a sequel - it's just part of the system.

"Sometimes people who do action films hecome a real product. I haven't anything against that. It's the choice of your life. You can stop, go do a play or a low-budget film. C'est vrai. The question remains, is it interesting enough to do Godzilla?

Yes, of course. Roland Emmerich called me in 1996. A simple human being, saying: We'll do a movie about Godzilla and have a French character in it. Simple, and let's have a glass of wine. Merde.

Why I am going to say 'No'?
"I was spending time with people I'm happy with. It was not that I had this American dream - it was rather

don't think you lose Roland Emmerich's first film since that I wanted to realise the maxiblanca to Andalusian parents (exiles your culture by im- Independence Day. Reno is set to mum potential from my work. That of the Franco regime), is no stranger widen his fan hase, if not his way, my dream would be ac- to military procedure. He left Morcomplished.

With the monster's growth hlamed on French nuclear testing, Reno plays a covert French intelligence operative sent to "clean up" his country's experiment.

Spending the first half of the film peddling a running saga about the poor state of American coffee, expatiating on the delights of Elvis Presley and chewing gum, it's a role tinged with resonance. Reno, too, is a detached observer of the country, while remaining critical of his own.

Smoking and laughing, the 49year-old discusses the hackneyed political undercurrent of the film. "It's not the fault of Chirac, be-

cause Mitterrand took up the programme. I am not defending him that's the facts. Now France has finished nuclear testing, and I'm pleased. I'm glad it was raised in our film. It was well written in that sense. I hope it gives people a fright. You cannot have fun when such a

lethal force is at stake." Reno, who was born in Casa-

occo when he was 18, joining the French army where he was sta-

tioned in Germany as a ranger. Moving to Paris in 1970, he began working in theatre with the esteemed Didier Flamand. Despite working in the late Seventies for Costa-Gavras (on Claire de Femme), Reno's hreak came when he met Luc Besson, (then an assis-

tant director), in the early Eighties. When I met Luc Besson I was playing petit bourgeois roles in the theatre, but someone else's view can change your perception of what you can do. He was one of the first who believed in me," says Reno.

Casting Reno as an aviator in his first film, Le Dernier Combat, Besson went on to use him again (briefly) in Subway, subsequently elevating him, via Nikita and The Big Blue, to the title role in Léon, the hitman with a heart - only the second lead of his career.

While losing the chance to reprise his Nikita role to Harvey Keitel in the American remake The strange to explain, why you believe

chance to diversify.

starred last year in the charmingly hlack Roseanna's Grave as an I ian trattoria owner attempting to secure for his dying wife the town's last grave plot.

I have great admiration for people who survive in this husiness. You have to be daring, hut must respect the character and not go too far immediately," he says.

"Look at Clint Eastwood, who has played in everything from Dirty Harry to Madison County - still many different shades of character and spirit. You have to dare; you can't take an apple and turn it into a pear. You have to go via an apricot on the way." Fruit metaphors aside the frequently compares his work to tennis players and farmyard animals), Reno's self-analysis is clinical.

"I am an actor so I try to act. But basically I am a human being, I am fragile; I have fears. I love people. I try to interpret what you want from me, that is all. It is some kind of chemical reaction sometimes, very

"The only enemy I have is myself. Never more so than when he It is the desire to please, that's for sure. The desire to seduce and convince. I do not have a sense of ego.'

Having rejected LA life, Reno now lives on a farm in the village of Arles in Provence – "where no one talks about cinema" – with his teenage son and daughter from his first marriage, as well as his girlfriend and their infant son, Tom. " You have to find a good balance between spending time with the family and work: it's like a machine, Hollywood, boom-boom, sending you scripts all the time."

Careful to strike equilibrium also between the machine and more low-key projects, Reno is currently hoping to appear in an American remake of Les Visiteurs, produced by Home Alone's John Hughes, with Besson potentially set to direct. Of more interest is an as-yet-

unnamed love story with Juliette Bimoche, "This is something more intimate - like stopping at a small hotel," he hints. "I prefer this, rather than playing a monster like Leon. Yet, delighting in his chance to



play the Hollywood game, Reno's next screen appointment will be alongside Jonathan Pryce and Robert De Niro in Ronin, the veteran John Frankenheimer's thriller about mercenaries, set in Paris.

"It's a very strange story," Reno. concludes. "A classical movie, because Frankenheimer is a 68-yearold director. I was happy to be working with De Niro." Ever the true Frenchman, he adds with a smile: "It was fun, eating and drinking all

Godzilla is released on 17 July

OLIVER STONE "ONE OF THE MOST REALISTIC MOVIES ABOUT WAR SINCE 'PLATOON'." "AN UNMISSABLE, INCREDIBLY MOVING, ANTI-WAR CLASSIC. ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT FILMS OF THE YEAR." STARTS TOMORROW CINEWORLD CONTROLL CONTROL AND AT SELECTED CINEMAS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Who wants reality at the movies?

CAN YOU stomach another movie where the heroes sprint hand-in-hand away from a fuzzy digital fireball? Or someone scampers up a jetty pursued by a mushy grey tidal wave? The sort of movie where the hero always wins through, regardless of physics?

The impending Godzilla movie is another such hopeful hlockbuster - a monster fantasy that strives after perfect photo-realism.

The movie's creators, director/writer Roland Emmerich and producer/writer Dean Devlin, were so pleased with the way the digital space ships and fighter planes turned out in Independence Day (or ID4 in Hollywood-speak), and how cost-effective it proved, that they set up their own digital effects studio, CFX (Centropolis Effects) to keep the talent together CFX has grown from a staff of 10 to more than 100, and has become one of the hottest special effects houses around (they did all the Godzil-

la graphics). The President of CFX, Steve Purim, a supremely confident young animator-turned exec. addressed the crowd at a midtown Manhattan lecture theatre last week.



industry - men with frameless glasses, women in hlack. The future of film-making. The charming Purim talked about his battles with Emmerich who, based on his experience making Stargate, hated digital effects and wanted to do all of ID4 with models and then composite them (a process like blue screening on television).

The result was that for the Hair is hard to "matte" - to F18 fighter plane flights match to the background. through the Grand Canyon in Independence Day, Purim made hoth the model composite sequences and the computer-generated version, and showed them back-to-back. The director admitted the digital version was superior.

So by the time they were Most of them were from the writing Godzilla in their Mex-

ican hideaway, Purim said, "Roland and Dean were calling us saying 'What if Godzilla swam? What if he jumped? Can we do that?" Purim assured them that almost anything was possible, right down to having the monster run along the Brooklyn Bridge and get tangled in the cables. All digitally, all without puppets. He drew the line at hair though.

His chief supervisors, two Germans called Carolin Quis and Steffen Wild, then took up the thread. Their main concern was the "pipeline", the technical processes film-makers use to create the images. It takes time to do wireframe models on screen, then "render" them,

(this takes a lot of time and computing power - roughly 30 hours per shot), then add texture, expressions etc. (Fur, it seems, is the hardest thing to do.) To speed up the pipeline they played with combinations

of the best software and hardware available - stuff with names that sound like movies themselves: Flint, SoftImage, Tornado, Storm and Houdini. At this level, animators can

customise the programme so that Godzilla's virtual "skeleton" moves with its skin naturally, or so that he moves more slowly than those around him. to make him appear heavy. Taking us through the different stages of making one

scene where Godzilla's giant foot crashes down on the back of a yellow taxi right outside Grand Central Station, Wild showed how they did a "pass" for each layer of information: a lighting pass to get the shadows right, an iridescence pass to get the correct sheen of the water running down the monster's knobbly skin. (Teeming rain and fog are a good way of covering up any inconsistencies of lighting or outline.)

All pieced together, it looked impressive, like someone had worked hard to make it look natural. But ultimately, the point

seemed to have been missed. Godzilla does look like a large lizard. He is "animated" and lithe - all those things they strove for. But one has to won-

der, why fight such a long tra-

dition of artificiality? At Godzilla movies, children suspend their disbelief, while adults chuckle, wondering how hot it was for the little Japanese man in the rubber suit, and

where his eyeholes were. Godzilla's eyes were meant to portray the look of a nuclear mutant hermaphrodite who has just had his nest of babies blown up by the Air Force, but

that didn't quite come across. Quis and Wild's concluding remarks were that the film industry is moving towards total digital sets, but they were careful to note the limitations. "In the end it will always be about human actors conveying emotion."

It sounded, however, like a hopeful but not very heartfelt piece of humanism at the end of a techno love fest. If this is the best there is in digital effects, Godzilla proves nothing. You still look for the joins.

Meanwhile, the people at CFX already have their next project lined up. It's the tale of Stuart Little, a mouse. It'll be interesting to see how they handle all that fur.

"Enchanting"

"Hauntingly beautiful"

NICOLAS MEG CAGE

لمكذا عن ألاصل

RYAN



evil in a way that controversial

reach Regar's troubled soul. Certainly the depicted possession is overblown, but the ministry is presented with dignity as an honourable vocation. staffed by people who are ordinary, imperfect men aided by the power of God. Both priests, like their God, are self-sacrificial in their quest to save the girl And the very crux of the film is all there in the famous poster image: the yellow silhouette of the man at the gate bringing light into the pitch

Catherine Von Ruhland

The Exorcist: it's back and it's a scream

The horror that turned heads in '74 has been exhumed from movie hell. Chris Darke exorcises its troubled past, while Catherine Von Ruhland gives it her blessing

IN 1974, when The Exorcist was first released in the UK, sections of the British press were vehement in their disgusted dismissals: "The Devil take this contrived screen disgrace". "Sickening, gruesome, hate-ful", ran the headlines.

Twenty-five years on, the re-release of director William Friedkin's classic supernatural chiller arrives at a key moment in the debate on film and video censorship in Britain. While audiences in Scotland can see the film in cinemas from this Friday - with English cinemagoers having to wait for the projected big screen re-release scheduled for Hallowe'en - getting hold of a video copy of The Exorcist is another matter altogether.

For all the media furore the film provoked on its original release, it was passed uncut for cinema release and, in 1980, became one of Warner Bros' first home video releases in the UK. So what happened? To explore the fate of The Exorcist on video is to delve into the inconsistent and at times downright confusing machinations of the British Board of Film Clas-

It was the draconian Video Recordings Act of 1984 that made the BBFC responsible for video as well as films. The film critic Mark Kermode, who presented the recent BBC documentary Fear of God: 25 Years of The Exorcist, and has written a BFI monograph on the film, explains: "The movie was withdrawn from video stores in 1986 and between then and now, they [the BBFC] have been asked if Warners could re-



"The Exorcist' is effectively banned from video release not because it's bad but because it'a too good

been, 'Not now, not yet. We're not ready for it.' Nobody thought that the waiting would take this long."

Kermode insists: "This is called banning a film. [James] Ferman [secretary of the BBFC] has let it be known that if it was submitted it would not

be passed," However, James Ferman is due to leave the BBFC by the end of this year, having been in place since 1975, and the new president, Andreas Whittam Smith, is seen by some as promising a less restrictive atsubmit and the response has titude to censorship, some-

thing fuelled by recent BBFC decisions to allow video certification for the controversial films Crash and Kissed.

In Kermode's BBC docureasons behind his resistance to certificating The Exprcist for release on vid3eo. "The problem with The Express is not that it's a bad film but that it's a very good film. It's one of the most powerful films ever made, and it is its power that's the problem on video. The fact is that you're

more than 50 per cent of children in Britain have TVs in their bedrooms and many of them have a video as well."

It's an argument that Kermentary Ferman explained the mode and many other anticensorship campaigners have little time for

In an open letter to The Observer, Kermode wrote: "It has been my experience that younger viewers are simply not interested in a movie which, for at least half of its running time, features worried parents and sombre priests anguishing in darkened corridors about

special effects look dated to a generation raised on Jurussic Park and Titanic.

A spokesperson at Warners Video said that they are "having meetings with the BBFC at the moment" about whether the film can be now certificated. Given the importance of video sales to the commercial viability of film releases, Warners may find themselves the unlikely corporate champions of a whole new chapter in the history of censorship and certification.

CHRIS DARRE

Disturbing in its depiction of

wnta MY FLESH creeps before I even

enter the cinema. After all. The Exorcist has a silver jubilee of urban myth to feed on: of heart attacks and epileptic fits in the audience, of strange things happening to the cast like some Tutankhamun curse striking down anyone involved. I was still in primary school when it was first released but I can remember the stark posters as distinctly as Malcolm McDow-Sell's faise eyelashes from A Clockwork Orange ads just the year before.

The young Catholic marketing officer at the local multiplex where it's showing tells me she's avoiding seeing it. Editors on the Christian press seem reticent about giving the film's Scottish distribution any coverage. Phoning in ideas for my column on an evangelical paper, there is a marked silence from the editor when I suggest reviewing it. Another Christian arts editor is more interested in the news angle of any campaigns against its showing -"and especially if Episcopalians have anything to say".

The film's atmosphere of utter evil is chillingly authentic

Holy ghostbusters

importing It into children's

homes, and probably into chil-

dren's bedrooms, because now

in a way achieved by possibly of the 12 year old Regan's posaround the satanic, casting a hollow-cheeked gentleman charmer like Christopher Lee or Al Pacino as the very devil himself. The Exorcist remains deeply disturbing in its account tortions and bestial facial trans-

no other movie. Where most session and the ensuing spiri-Hollywood horror pussyfoots tual battle for her soul. The improved sound quali-

ty exacerbates the film's sheer - except as expressed in young Linda Blair's impressive con-

that terrifies. Yet the film's redeeming theme is that of the Catholic priest choosing to go the full distance with Utter horror, for without a visible foe Darkness - a sleeves-rolled-up, no-holds-barred fight to the finish between God's earthly representatives and Satan.

WHAT THEY SAID IN 1974

The Exercist is claptrap. It has hardly any narrative to speak of ... it contains more loose ends than the first draft of a 2000-page novel.' Vincent Canby, New

York Times' It rates high on the list of

phenomena not to be taken seriously ... Making analytic statements about it is as silly as the famous one made by a social scientist about The Godfather'; he said that the movie was a hit because

people liked the example it provided of family solidarity.' Eugene C Kennedy, priest and psychology professor, New York

'All I can say after squirming through this sickening excess of blood, vomiting, lewd language and gruesome satanic phenomena is that I hope never again to see anything half as hateful."

The 'Daily Mail'

Doing that soundtrack was a terrible experience. I didn't just do the voice. I did all the demon's sounds. That wheezing, for instance. My bronchitis helped with that ... I used moaning cries I

used when playing Lady Macbeth for Orson [Welles] ... For the groaning, I pulled a scarf around my neck, tight, and almost strangled."

Mercedes McCambridge, who voiced the demon, speaking to Charles Higham, 'Variety'

releases such as Reservoir Dogs and Crash are not, it is a not a film that I would wish to be seen by anyone who is under 18. But, the Exercist is surely an explicitly Christian film. Against primitive 1970s brain scans and dismissive psychiatric diagnoses, only Church rites administered by Max von Sydow's frail but fearless Father Merrin and Jason Miller's doubting Father Karras can

black of the night.

is film critic of the New Christian Herald

THE CHARTS

US BOX OFFICE SCREENS MEER'S TAKINGS TOTAL TAKINGE 2315 \$44,521,779 \$44.521,779 \$44,521,779 A Perfect Murder Godzilla Hope Float The Horse Whisp'r **Sulworth** Got the Hook-Up UK BOX OFFICE TOTAL TAXINGS £1,498,831 The Wedding Singer Silding Doors £8,508,883 £8,117,868 Deep Impaci £835,006 £306,392 218 £307.189 186 £306,392 The General Red Corner £7,480,944 Scream 2 174 £221,208 139 £220,772 129 £220,642 Dark City 10 Replacement Killers HONG KONG BOX OFFICE SCREENS WEEK'S TAKINGS TOTAL TAXINGS 36 \$1,494,464 \$1.494,464 \$442,674 City of Angels
Expect the Unexpected \$647,207 \$208.235 Young & Dangerous 5575,172 \$246,984 Love & Sex of the East 3 \$40,211 3 \$20,905 \$127,449 ag the Dog Tale of the Sacred Mount

RUSHES

MIKE HIGGINS

presence of Matthew Mc-Connaughey (check out his performance in Contact for a text-book definition of redundancy) looks set to blight another project. An Alexander the Great biopic, which originally came to light with Oliver Stone and Tom Craise attached, has been revived with the news that Christopher McQuarrie, the writer behind The Usual Suspects, has penned a new screenplay of the life of the Macedonian leader and the smirking Texan is in talks

LESS THAN GREAT: The dismal

RETURN OF THE DOLLS: Brady Bunch director Betty Thomas looks intent on mining an entire career from a rich seam of 50s and 60s trash. Next up for Thomas is a re-make of Dr Dolittle with Eddy Murphy and this week comes news that she's on the verge of clinching a deal to helm another version of Jacqueline Susann's pulpy best-selling 1966 novel, Valley of the Dolls. Susann's vivid portrayal of the tribulations of three wannabe starlets battling to the top has sold over 19 million copies to date and underwent its first film adaptation a year after publication; an effort which Susann judged "a piece of shit". Susann got as good as she gave, however: Truman Capote once commented that she looked rather like "a truck driver in drag". Whether actress Bette Midler, who is due to star as the writer in a forthcoming biopic, will take Capote's bon mot as a cue for her characterisation remains for us all to see, however.

TEARS FOR PINOCCHIO: A tearful

turn of events in Francis Ford Coppola's legal action against Warner Brothers provided a fascinating glimpse into the kind of schmaltz that attracts one of American cinema's greatest directors. Coppola is seeking over \$23m in damages for what he believes is the studio's attempt to lay claim to a live-action, big screen adaptation of Pinocchio, which they had initially expressed interest in before backing off. Coppola told the court before breaking down: "I don't know why stories of kids are so moving to me. You need a concept that gives life to a [story], to give it a heart and soul, something unique." The director cried as he recounted his vision of the Pinocchio tale, which updates the story of the lying wooden puppet who dreams of becoming a real boy to Nazi-occupied France.

UNTIL SHE Soundtrack Album Includes Recordings By: WITH ONE. CITY ANGELS OPENS NATIONWIDE TOMORROW SCOOT ON 192192

Out of the closet, into the fire

'Out' is no longer cool in Hollywood, if ever it was. Take Anne Heche: a bankable star turned film promoter's nightmare. By Cameron Docherty

he doesn't care that Anne Heche, the leading lady in his latest film, Six Days, Seven Nights, is a leshian? "Frankly, I don't give a damn," he has doggedly replied when the subject is inevitably broached. But the controversial casting of Heche, the "fiancee" of America's infamous leshian TV star Ellen DeGeneres, in a romantic role opposite Ford - who has built a career playing steadfast, masculine heroes in hit movies such as the Indiana Jones trilogy. Presumed Innocent, and Air Force One - seems to have hackfired. It appears that Heche's much-typed relationship with DeGeneres has become a stumbling-block for Disnev in their attempts to promote the film. In a recent poll, 68 per cent of respondents said their decision to see the romantic thriller had been adversely affected by the choice of Heche as Ford's love interest. That sentiment was echoed by

one high-powered studio executive, who maintained that "the only way Sir Dnys, Seven Nights works is if you huy into the premise that the couple are falling in love. But that's almost impossible to do because you have a female lead better known for her sexual preferences than for her screen persona." Heche, of course, was thrust into the limelight last year when her lover, the actress Ellen DeGeneres, declared to all and sundry that she is a leshian (and she also announced that, yep, her TV character is gay too). For a while, the couple were omnipresent. They cuddled up at premieres. Ilaunted their sexuality on

oes anybody really the Oprah Winfrey show, and looked knew too much about her. believe Harrison as if they were joined at the hip Ford when he says while attending a White House state dinner.

Everyone I talked to had become sick to death of them both. So, eventually, did ABC, which yanked De-Generes' mid-rated sitcom from its line-up for next year. Sadly, the reviews for Six Dnys, Seven Nights concentrated not so much on Heche's overall performance as on her portrayal of a heterosexual woman. "Much too whiny," criticised The Hollywood Reporter.

So how is any of this even remotely sad? Because Heche, a talented actress, has been denied the greatest gift-any actor can have: The ability to surprise us. All the hullabaloo concerning her sexuality and her lifestyle has undermined her value as a performer. By heing so public about private matters, she seems to have inadvertently typecast berself for ever.

Why? Because we know far too much about her. The name of her dog, which side of the hed she prefers to sleep on, even the colour of her toilet paper. Several critics have wondered whether she would have been cast in the part if she had not already been living with Ellen. I suspect not. Not that it matters. When we see Sir Days, Seven Nights, we think, "Is that really the leshian girl who lives with Ellen? I wonder what she sees in her."

In 10 years' time, this won't matter. They will either be married, in which case we will be tired of them, or they will have broken up, in which case those of us with short memories will have forgotten that they ever cohabited. (Although as the movie started its run, that's all we could think about.) Heche couldn't surprise us because we

Also, whether she admits it or not (she doesn't), her leshianism gets in the way of intimate moments she shares with Ford on screen. You . know it's difficult for them to kiss, because he's really not her cup of tea. Some actresses openly admit they enjoy feigning moments of passion with handsome leading men. "Hey, it's not exactly a stretch to find Brad Pitt attractive," observed Minnie Driver. For Heche, though, audiences know it's a huge pretence and the moment is overshadowed by what we know.

Of course, Heche is not the first high-profile lesbian to be maligned for her sexuality. Long before De-Generes and Heche, notable performers such as Sandra Bernhard and kd lang were already out there, extolling the virtues of a leshian life. Was it merely a coincidence that the downward spiral of their careers occurred not long after this bold proclamation?

Their prominence in the early Nineties seemed to indicate a triumphant resurgence in the leshian movement which had flaked off into grumbling factions and separatist groups in the Seventies. The stereotype leabian was a girliegirl, a trend-setter and go-go dancer. And the steamy lambada scene with Sharon Stone in Basic Instinct set the tone.

There was Melissa Etheridge and her lover celebrating lesbian motherhood on the cover of Newsweek, the popularity of writers such as Jeanette Winterson and Dorothy Allison (who posed for The New York Times magazine in biker gear); lesbian movies such as Bound to Xena: Warrior Princess. a television character who has become a role model for teenage

females and a huge lesbian cuit hit as well.

However, the climate has changed again, and high-profile lesbians don't seem so ecstatic about coming out now. "I don't care to define myself as a lesbian." Bernhard, a former playmate of Madonna, told Out magazine recently. "I hate that word. It's a nasty. dirty word. It's not a glamorous word. It's not a sexy word. It's dry. It's colouriess."

The problem is that our pop culture wants everything and everyone nailed down, neatly labelled and explicit. The intellectual practitioners may preach a porous uni-sexuality in which genders are blurred, and males and females share each other's clothes, but the tabloid press, the dominant influence on media culture today, works from an entirely different agenda.

Its job is to squeeze out confessions or, failing that, to get the goods. Hence all those off guard, grainy "Gotcha!" shots of a female celebrity with her "lady friend" that appear in the American tabloids almost every week. Tabloid foragers assume that each celebrity has a private and a public face. like two sides of a playing-card, and that when the two sides clash, it's open season.

Some of the celebrities who come out - Rupert Everett and George Michael spring to mind - do so less from pride than from battle fatigue. They're tired of being dogged by the media. Of course, no one should stay in the closet if they want to be out. But in the case of Anne Heche, at the start of what I'm sure she hopes will be a long and distinguished film career, discretion might have been the hetter part of



Anne Heche may well be wishing she had stayed quiet

Retna

Women on the edge of an emotional breakthrough

It was the first time Brenda Blethyn and Julie Walters worked together, but 'Girls' Night' was the start of a beautiful friendship. By W Stephen Gilbert

side Manchester, talking to a young man whom no one recognises as a movie director. Around us is spread the paraphernalia of a shoot. The locals are healthly indifferent to the invasion. In a couple of days, the lights and trucks will be gone but local husiness will go on.

Nick Hurran is doing something directors in Hollywood don't do. He is talking about writers. "I've been very lucky all along the way with the writers I have got to work with -Richard Harris, Simon Nye, Michael Frayn wrote the last thing I did." That was Remember Me? a film developed from one of Frayn's 1960s television plays called Jnmie on n Fluing Visit, and, it might be argued, better left in television history.

A rather small part in Remember Me? was taken by Brenda Blethyn, doubtless as a favour to Hurran after the success they shared in three series of the Richard Harris sitcom Outside Edge, itself developed from a stage play. Now Blethyn is waiting in her trailer to shoot a scene from Girls' Night, which pairs her with

IT'S MID-APRIL 1997. I'm standing Julie Walters, to everyone's surprise in the market of a small town out- the first time these two have played

Blethyn stepped off the plane from last year's Oscars ceremony to be rushed to the read-through of Girls' Night. There is little doubt where she feels more comfortable. Not that the madness of LA did not amuse her. "We had a limo to take us to the Elton John party because he was going to toast the independent films at midnight. My partner Mike and I noticed we were down hack streets and surely not where we were supposed to be. So I said to the driver: "Do you know where you are?" and he said: "No. Ma'am." He was a stranger in Los Angeles and he was lost. I panicked. It was terribly embarrassing to go into a garage in a stretch limo to ask directions. I was decked out in \$3mworth of jewellery and we were lost in the back streets.

Julie Walters, of course, went through this experience 14 years earlier with her Academy Award nomination for Educating Rita. I wondered if they had compared notes. "Not yet," says Blethyn. "Our



Brenda Blethyn and Julie Walters, together on film at last

heads have been down, working. It ing, too. "She is my type of actress. seems like history now to me. That's the best medicine of all. It isn't half nice. And I am a real fan of hers. But it is straight to work, then home to bed and no time for anything else. I can't phone my work in. And I must

Walters is pleased about the pair-

I feel as if I know her. It's really funny.

Crash (18) (available to rent

Cronenberg's censor baiter got the moral majority riled, it's hard to see what all the

fuss was about. Anyone who

corrupted by this tedious

James Spader is a

decadent commercials

sort?) who becomes

study of sexuality, morality and cars would have to stay

director (is there any other

involved with Holly Runter following a car accident

between the two of them in

which her husband is killed.

Their relationship develops around the car wreck which

unites them and reveals an

entire sub-culture devoted to man's subjection to the

machine. Rosanna Arquette

wanders around in calipers,

but by the time she turns

up, you're beyond caring

Lawn Dogs (15) (available

Sam Rockwell is on a nice

little earner. Americans,

about this anaemic

to rent from Monday)

A year after David

was likely to end up

awake.

In another life perhaps." Girls' Night is about two sisters in law who regularly play hingo together Walters' character, Jackie, is a brassy go-getter, feeling hemmed in by disappointing husband and lousy production-line johs. Dawn

whelmed by illness when she has a hig win on the hingo. Kay Mellor's hold and beautiful-

ly written script embraces the emotion and the humour of the women's situation in a way that is very un-English and almost shamelessly upfront.

The actresses lap it up.
"Right! This is it! Absolutely!" cries Julie Walters. "And middleaged women. We love this!"

For her acting a role affected by the desperate illness of someone close is bound to be shadowed by the long struggle borne hy Walters' daughter Maisie in her childhood. "Your life does affect your work. Everything is going to influence the way you observe and embody a character. It was peculiar shooting in a hospital the other day. We spent such a loog time in hospital. But Maisie's well and a child and my daughter and it was such a huge personal thing, there's nothing like the fear of losing a child. I think I felt more aware of remembering my friend Ian Charleson when he was

who is just beginning to be over- from too much emotion when I am don't say I never forget a line but it's working because I wouldn't want to go 'whahey!' - you might never stop. So I don't consciously go to it as emolional material. But it's part of me, naturally."

I ask Brenda Blethyn about the difficulty of playing emotional scenes. "I don't find one thing more difficult than another to play. It's just finding the truth of it, not how you do something hut why you do it, why you say it. That's the most challenging part of any acting. All you should ever do is trust the writing.

If you don't trust it, don't do it." She was given an early draft of the script and at that stage said she would be keen to pursue it. "It's been floating around in my mind for about nine months, like a pregnancy. I didn't sit down and sweat over it. She was just renting a room up in my head somewhere. The true friendship of women, even though neither of them really realises it, I found nourishing. It's so tender, but

she is not afraid of things being ugly."

Julie Walters says that Kay Mellor's dialogue is unusually easy to

(Blethyn) is a devoted home-maker dying in 1990. But I try to keep away play. "It just goes into your head. I very easy to learn and that is a good sign I always think. And of course middle-aged women are rarely represented this well.

Meeting Kay Mellor four months later, I encounter a writer ecstatic with the fine cut of the film that Nick Hurran has just shown her. "It's very seldom in any writer's career that. a script is realised 100 per cent. Brenda and Julie just knew what I wanted. They knew why I had written it. Nick's been affected by cancer in his family so he understood it, too. It almost seemed like someone was up there looking after us."

The script had unusually personal origins. "I wrote it as a tribute to a friend who was dying of cancer a couple of years ago. They were encouraging her to talk about it. But she didn't want to The last thing she said to me was: You have to write about it, Kay, so that we don't have to talk about it, those of us that don't want to.' And I wanted to understand how she graciously left this life while I was furious and raging." 'Girls' Night' opens on 26 June.



VIDEOWATCH MIKE HIGGINS



James Spader and Holly Hunter in 'Crash'

setting the world to rights and Rockwell appears to have cornered the market. In Box of Moonlight, he played a kind of harlequin who flushes the ants from John Turturro's pants and in John Duigan's off-beat drama it's husiness as

Mischa Barton is a tenyear-old roped into selling cookies in her manicured up-market neighbourhood in order to turnish the family image for her father's local political ambitions. Rockwell, playing a mildly

eccentric young gardener (or lawn dog) is befriended by the girl, further incurring the wrath of the rich local teenagers and their uptight families. The suburban satire is efficiently handled even if Tim Burton did it far better in Edward Scissorhands.

Marvin's Room (12) (available to buy now -£10.991

Back in the days before Leonardo DiCaprio decided that playing drill wielding yuppies would permit us a

glimpse of the urchin's dark side (or whatever), he kept himself husy with roles like this: the sulky sultry teenager. Jerry Zaks's understated chamber plece about family loyalty works well, though. Even if this adaptation of the late Scott McPherson's atage play provided the sort of choice roles that its A-list cast routinely notch up every few years (to show us all the actor within, of course), it's mercifully of the thesp grandstanding that projects like these often provoke.

Diane Keaton was deserted 20 years previously by her sister, Meryl Streep, and has been hurdened ever since with the care of their parents. Now, she prepares for the return of Streep. with brats in tow (including DiCaprio). Pleasingly, the ensuing drama seems to take much of its chilly tone from the shady Florida hungalow in which much of the action takes place. A few treacty lapses notwithstanding, the film also includes a fabulous pair of cameo performances from Robert De Niro as a local physician and Dan

Hedaya as his completely

loopy brother.

FAST TRACK

GRADUATING TO THE WORLD OF WORK

A diplomatic change of face

One man is out to change the statistic that only three per cent of Foreign Office staff are from an ethnic minority. By Louise Jury

round 500 guests will mingle in the gilded grandeur of the Foreign Office tonight as Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, bosts a reception. It marks the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the Empire Windrush, which carried bundreds of people from the West Indies "bome to the mother country". And it is fair to assume there will be an uncharacteristically large number of black faces among those raising their glasses.

If you think about the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), you probably think white, public-school male. Accurate, in many ways. Only



Linbert Spencer: 7 think diversity adds value

three per cent of FCO staff are from the ethnic minorities. A third are

But when Labour swept to power last year, they demanded change. Baroness Symons, the minister in charge of personnel, went on the record as wanting more black and disabilities. She asked for action.

On 1 December, Linbert Spencer, a 50-year-old management consulliaison officer. "The brief was for me order to increase the number of minority ethnic diplomatic service staff,"

As soon as Linbert arrived in Tiffice, he organised a blitz of publicity encouraging people from ethnic minorities to apply for Foreign Office jobs. He believes that his efforts are already working.

This year's recruitment for main-



equivalent of a graduate managetant and expert on equal opportun- ment trainee in the private sector, Around 1,000 graduates and under- munities. "People who are listened ities, was appointed minority ethnic except that you do not have to be a graduate - began in February, and to work with the Foreign Office in applicants from ethnic minorities have more than doubled from the previous year's 200, making them 25 per cent of potential recruits. Selection is still under way, but Linbert is confident that more will be successful than last year's two out of 17

To improve the number of entrants into the diplomatic fast stream, the FCO yesterday held its stream staff - the Civil Service first recruitment fair, opened by

appointments.

the Foreign Secretary himself. with clear influence on their comor with disabilities, were welcomed

The idea is to get out into the community and to get the community to get a glimpse of the Foreign Office. There have been a series of specially targeted advertorials in newspapers such as the Caribbean Times and Eastern Eye. And there have been any number of meetings.

The Foreign Office has recruited organisations - race equality councils, advice bodies, housing trusts -

graduates, all from ethnic minorities to, people who have authority, what but they have an image of men we call multipliers," Linbert says. staff have gone out to places such as Nottingham, Manchester and London to meet and talk. The feedback has been positive. "From the communities, I think there's a general awareness of the idea that there's a seriousness on the part of the Foreign Office" Linbert says.

"It's not a one-headline wonder." One of the main problems for the . FCO, he believes, is image. "It's not

so much that people have this detailed knowledge of what's going on, from Oxford and Cambridge who are people from these backgrounds in the organisation - and who obviously make a tremendous contribution - that's not the sole make-up. Neither is it the organisation's aim that they should be the only ones sought after."

The Foreign Office wants the public to know this. Although not the main purpose of the Windrush reception tonight, many of the guests

will be exactly the kind of people Linbert Spencer wants as "multipliers". And though he knows some people turn up their poses at the ostentation of the FCO's imposing Whitehall guests are glad they were invited.

"Tve not met any resistance from people wanting to come and be part of what's happening. They are very pleased to be invited into the heart of government. We don't always make the right assumptions, especially about people of Caribbean and south Asian origin. There is a sense of loyalty to crown and state."

There may be a commitment to public service, too. The Asian community, for instance, may have traditionally encouraged its children into professions such as medicine and the law, but Linbert Spencer believes that many of them could be attracted into the public sector.

We want to attract the brightest and the best in the community and sell to them the idea of a career in the public sector," he says. They are no less likely than their white counterparts to have a sense of commitment to services, he says. "If you look at minority ethnic communities and the social welfare activity that carries on on a voluntary basis, you can't argue that there isn't a sense of commitment to service."

Linbert, whose parents brought him to the UK from Jamaica at the age of seven, began work at the Foreign Office by talking to people and securing enthusiasm at the highest

"It was agreed that if we were going to make some progress on this agenda, there needed to be clear leadership given from the top of the organisation," he says. Ministers have shown support, and parliamentary under-secretaries alerted staff to the project through their reg-

Asked whether he has found supoort from the men of the Foreign Office, Linbert Spencer replies a wholehearted yes, though there is always a need to explain why there has to be a budget for such work.

According to Linbert, the Foreign Office has not traditionally seen ethnic communities in Britain as its constituency. It is a big leap in thinking for some, but Linbert believes the long-term benefits will be

"I'm doing this because I think it's important," he says. "Not just for fairness in distribution of employment in different communities. I absolutely believe that organisations that are ethnically and culturally diverse in terms of staff will come up with better policies, better ways of doing things and more effective practice at the end of the day. I think diversity adds value."

This is even more importantifyou are a government organisation dealoffices, he believes that most of the ing with social policy world-wide. It makes sense to use the whole range of people living in Britain, if among them you already have representatives of nations that you need to

He thinks the Foreign Office understands that. "They're not engaged in notions of fairness or morality or social engineering. There is a clear business case."

THE ROLE of sport in the workplace is a highly complex one.

Firstly, it belps strung-out executives relax. After a hard day of ruthlessly competitive, cut-and-thrust, physically draining activity in the marketplace - what could be more relaxing than having a small (but extremely hard) spherical projectile propelled towards your groin at approximately 250mph?

Secondly: as any top business professional knows, the biggest corporate deals are struck not in the boardroom, but in the changing room. The advantage being that most sports-centre changing rooms don't have such a lingering smell of male armpit odour, and are less rife with accusations of unsportsmanlike

To put it bluntly: if you want to make it to the top, what you really need is balls. Most large companies now have their own soccer, cricket or rugby squads (eg Lloyds United, the First Leisure XI, the Alliance &-Leicester City) - who engage in fierce competition with other corporate sides.

Indeed, some firms now place such emphasis on this that they select employees not by academic achievement, but by sporting prowess. If asked during an interview "what are your goals", the correct response nowadays is probably "they're those big netty things at either end of your pitch - boss". Doctors, meanwhile, have been

baffled by the way incidences of gastroenteritis, head-colds and feeling a bit queasy I think I'd better take a day off" rise dramatically in direct. correllation to World Cup matches (a medical phenomenon now known as "Englandular Fever").

The type of sport you play will probably depend to a large extent on

your particular job. Viz: Advertising executive - football. This is, of course, a popular pastime involving big pitches, white lines, are those of the catgut-strung striving for promotion, massive sponsorship deals and an awful lot

CORPORATE STRATEGIES

THE INSIDE TRACK ON BECOMING A CONSUMMATE PROFESSIONAL 19: BEING GIVEN THE BOOT... SPORT IN THE WORKPLACE



of laddish behaviour. Football, thankfully, is a slightly more civilised pur-

■ Temp – aerobics. Aerobic training hones that most crucial temping skill: the ability to follow complex instructions shouted out by a maniac slave-driver. Buttock clenches. meanwhile, build up the muscles used to resist uncomfortable office seating - and lying flat on her back cycling her legs in the air is useful practice for the Christmas party.

Accountant - tennis. If your accountant is having difficulty with some complicated returns, this probably means that he's out on the astroturf practising his ground strokes. Contrary to popular misapprehension, the only rackets most financial traders are involved with

■ Middle-manager – rowing. Generally rowing with other people about "who is not pulling their weight around this place".

■ Line manager – rifle shooting. Talking at length about "aims" and "target areas" comes naturally to any senior management staff, as does the ability to fire repeatedly with ruthless efficiency. ■ Travelling salesman - rally dri-

ving. ■ Union rep -- baseball (three strikes and you're out). ■ Canteen worker - the egg and

spoon race. ■ Head of personnel – the sack race. Office bore - snooker. ■ Security guard - American football. Requires the ability to be a

large, illiterate thug who refuses to let anyone get past him. (Millwall Supporter is an acceptable substi-

■ Post-boy - the 80m sprint. ■ Telemarketeer – angling. Sitting absolutely motionless for hours on end, being stuck on the end of a line and trying to here that elusive big catch is the secret of both angling and telemarketing. The phrase "sling your hook" is also common to both fields. Angling, however, is less likely to result in any sentient life form being bashed over the head with an iron bar.

■ IT supervisor – Nintendo soccer, preferably over a multi-player link with all the other IT staff, until the system crashes due to network

M Solitary smoker in non smoking office - skiing. The ski slope holds no terror for this employee, who -

since being banished to the office roof - is well used to standing outside in the freezing cold at very high altitudes. The other sport popular amongst smokers is cricket, since having a crafty fag without the manager spotting you requires considerable skill at catching and retaining the Ashes.

■ Fat cat chairman – golf. Golf is ideally suited to the chairman, since it involves nothing more taxing than a gentle stroll in the country, with someone else carrying your bags and the prospect of a long drink in an exclusive country club at the end of it all (those rolling expanses of hish verdant grass will also remind him of his green baize desk back at the office - though the golf course does not, of course, cover quite so

many acres). Sadly - golf also requires the wearing of exceedingly silly trousers and Pringle sweaters, which explains why so few women make it to the very top jobs. Unlike, say, Richard Branson, they have far too much dress sense to swap their Manolos for a pair of ridiculous golf

Extremely fat-cat chairman -

Sumo wrestling.

If your working schedule is too frantic to allow for regular sporting pursuits, don't despair! Most popular team games have their office

Darts, for instance, can be easily replicated with a photo of the MD and a set of sharp kitchen-knives. Basketball, using screwed-up important memos and a wastepaper basket, has been played for years by less-enthusiastic personnel. If, despite this, you are still a

ohysical weakling, completely devoid of co-ordination, lacking any team spirit and unable to kick a ball to save your life... rest assured. This needn't be a bandicap - you too can earn a six-figure salary. It's

Premiership footballer. DEBBIE BARHAM

simple. Just become an English

A-Z OF EMPLOYERS



History: The company was founded in Dublin in 1759 by Arthur Guinness, who bought a brewery at St James's Gate and whose "stout porter" sounds today more like a bouncer than a pint. Nevertheless, Guinness Stout -Ireland's "dark secret" - became the base around which the company grew, and is still served in 150 countries, with a third of these brewing the drink locally. Meanwhile, the Dublin brewery is still exporting around the world, while the company's London brewery takes care of pubs in the UK. Guinness has also built up other brands, including Cruzcampo, Harp, Kilkenny, Irish Beer and Red Stripe - as well as its sister companies Johnnie Walker, Bells and Gordons. It also came up with the popular "widget" in the Eighties.

Address: Headquarters are at Park Royal brewery in north

Ambience: The company is reputed to favour movers and achievers, rather than those who are good at politics or know the right set of people. There has been an emphasis on recruiting people in the 25-to-30 age bracket, as well as recent graduates. Ambience depends which bit they end up in. There's no one single thing to say. Some departments have dressing-down days.

VItal statistics: Guinness is now part of Diageo pic, after a merger with Grand Metropolitan in December last year. It now employs 12,500 people world-wide, and has seven operating regions. Last year's pre-tax profits amounted to Gilttering alumni: Brendan



£254m, which also heralded the company's fifth consecutive year of profit growth. In addition, it won a Queen's Award for Export two

Lifestyle: As in many other international companies, trainees are expected to be mobile and will probably get to travel. Some are based at the London headquarters, others in the regions. The company insists that future "business leaders" have international

Easy to get into? Competition is fairly stiff, with only around a dozen graduates taken on annually - preferably with an upper second degree - and 1,000 applicants last year. But there are other opportunities for those with talent, including a "business insight" programme for undergraduates to get involved with key projects, giving input into such areas as recommendations on how to sell the drink, and how to market it to contemporaries.

O'Neill was well versed in the art of brewing before he left Guinness to head up ICL The Guinness family itself has enjoyed its fair share of notoriety although it's not known whether Ernest supped stout in his cell.

Pay: The company says that, owing to restructuring, there are no starting salary figures available just now. Unusually, pay is not performance related, although all employees are entitled to a share of the profits.

Training: There's an emphasis on managing your own training, not just leaving it up to the company. Coaching, feedback and mentoring are all methods used, but the whole thing is left deliberately unstructured, and there is no set training period. Those who want to go in for formal qualifications such as chartered accountancy exams - may be granted study

Facilities: The staff restaurant serves free food and there's also an in-house gym. Meanwhile, for those who can't get enough of Guinness, a staff shop sells discounted beer and merchandise. In addition, there's a rather nice (but taxable) benefit for all employees – a product allowance including 12 cases of Guinness

Who's the boss? Colin Storm, who joined Guinness in 1961 as an under-brewer, has risen to the top and is now chief executive. As a spokeswoman put it: "He's a shinmg example of how far you can go within the company."

RACHELLE THACKRAY

Parents want their children to be happy in their careers. Or so they tell them. But what happens when they become resentful of their high-achieving offspring? By Annabelle Thorpe

ick Carter has been out of university for three years. Unlike most recent graduates who are still paying off loans, dreaming about owning a car, and rotating two suits (one of which is at least five years old), Nick drives a soft top Mercedes, wears Paul Smith suits and drinks champagne on weekday evenings. He lives in a trendy area of East London and spends more on a Friday night out with his friends than most of us get through in an entire weekend. At the age of 25, he is an investment analyst in the City, earning roughly £50,000 plus bonuses. In sbort, Nick Carter is young, rich and loving it.

Contrary to appearances, however, not all aspects of Nick's life are making him happy. His incredible success and financial security has bought problems from one unexpected corner of his life - his parents.

"What I do, or maybe more accurately, what I earn has become rather a hig problem between me and my dad," he admits. "My father was a teacher all his life, and even though he was a headmaster in his fifties he didn't earn as much as I do. He's also quite left wing and I know he thinks that what I earn - and what I spend it on - is immoral. As it is, I've told him I earn less than I do. It does make me unhappy. It's oot that he criticises me directly, just that he never seems to be impressed when I talk about work. I want him to be proud of me, but for him it's not that simple."

Nick's problem is a relative or new spin on an old debate, howev er; the child's ongoing struggle w win the approval of mum and dad. For most young people, the expectation is that the disappointment parents occasionally express in their children's decisions recedes with career successes. After all, we're constantly told by our parents that they only want us to be secure and happy. In reality, landing a high-flying job with a fat salary can actually make things worse

"I think it's incredibly sad when pareots feel unable to take pride in their children's achievements," says Dr Richard Woolfson, a psychologist specialising in family problems.
"Part of the parental role is to unconditionally support their children - unless they are doing something immoral or wrong," insists Woolfson. "All human beings need validation and reinforcement that what we are doing is good, and parents are often the prime source of that support."

Objectively, I can understand dad's point to an extent," says Nick. "He spent his life doing a 'worth-while' job that was very poorly paid. I actually think that salaries in the City are hugely inflated - but I don't dictate how much I earn. I'd still want to do my job if I earned \$20K but dad doesn't seem to understand that - and it means that we are becoming distanced from each other. If I talk about work be can't help but make sarcastic comments and I get annoyed. But if I don't talk about work, it feels as though we're avoiding the whole subject."

"However difficult it seems, you have to keep trying to involve your parents - even if they don't seem interested," says Dr Woolfson. "It can be hard if you're coming up against sarcastic comments or negative feedback but it is important to keep talking about what you're doing -

otherwise you will drift apart." Nick's situation will be familiar to many who rose to success in the money markets of the Eighties and Nineties. Every parent bas to put up with offspring whose political views differ wildly from their own but Conservative reforms in the City threw the vexed issue of inflated salaries into the pot.

In another common scenario, parents often make their children feel as If they have in some way compromised the reputation of the fam-

I AM the head of a small department

with a long-term absentee employ-

ee, which is making my workload

intolerable. Senior management

seem completely uninterested and

have refused to have anything to do

with the situation, although I have



In my day you earned 1t, son

ily trade. Again, this has long been a common cause of tension between the generations hut the problem has never been as stark as it is now. As we approach the 21st century, however, the conditions in which previous generations worked in many industries have changed beyond all recognition.

Jan Matheson, an independent television producer, knows this only too well. "When I first decided I wanted to go into television, my Dad was thrilled, as he'd been a producer," she says. "But over the years he has become more disenchapted with my choices - he produced documentaries. I do more light entertainment programmes -what he calls 'trivial'. It hurts that he belittles my work and I also think he's a bit jealous that I have become a producer so much more quickly than him. But I'm doing a different job - be worked on far more

prestigious programmes than I do. and it was a much longer route to becoming involved with those," says Matheson. "I know he thinks that I just can't he bothered to put in the work that he did - but I'm interest-

ed in different aspects of producing." "Although it is rare, some parents do feel threatened or even inadequate if their kids are extremely high achievers," says Mina Davison, a work psychologist. "The workplace has undergone buge changes over the past 20 years - the concept of having to work long years of an "apprenticeship" has, in many professions, been replaced by a far more flexible structure. In the media, in IT and finance particularly, it is now possible to be doing a job and earning a salary that would have taken I0 or 15 years to achieve when our parents were at work. Retired parents are often out of touch

ly understand how the system ac- 'son, 'but it's also important to retually works.

"Television has changed radically with deregulation and all the cable channels," agrees Jan Matheson. "There are simply so many more jobs around - it's a totally different husiness from the one my father worked in Then there were three terrestrial channels and each job was fought over. Work was very important to my Dad and I think he knows he's out of touch with the industry he used to be a part of."

It can be very demoralising when the very people whom you look to for unconditional support seem to be disapproving of your chosen career. But there are alternative sources of support - if your parents cannot be proud of you, there are plenty of other people around who

"It is important to keep on talkwith the workplace, and don't realing to your parents," says Dr Woolf-

member that there are other people with wbom you can share your success. Talk to your partner, siblings, friends - these are people who will understand the working world as it is to-day and who will be unreservedly pleased and proud at your success. You should never stop communication with your parents, but they are not the sole point of support for you.

Nick Carter agrees. "I've kind of realised that I've just got to stop expecting Dad to be proud, to be interested. Instead I talk to my brother, to my mates - not about how much I earn but about my day at work and what it consists of, I do mind that dad seems to be unable to get over his politics and that my success seems to make him feel bad. But I won't feel guilty - and if he can't be pleased for me, then I'll talk to someooe who is."

HELP DESK

YOUR CAREER PROBLEMS SOLVED BY THE EXPERTS

'I feel as if I might crack up!'

almost begged for support. The member of staff in question is litigious and wholly unconcerned about the effect her lengthy and frequent absences have on anyone else. She has been diagnosed as having a mild form of an untreatable illness and is unable to function efficiently when she is at work. I'm being made to feel lacking in compassion when actually I feel as

though I might crack up! The senior management have recently been strongly criticised for the non-existent staff development on offer, and I am strongly aware that "holding the fort" has prevented me from pursuing and developing all sorts of projects.

Am I being unreasonable? I have recently applied for another job, but I actually feel as if I'm being forced out. Virginia, Wokingham

Give yourself the best opportunity to manage the situation by facing it directly now. Obtain as much information as possible regarding

company policy/practice regarding sickness/absenteeism. Request an independent specialist doctor's report on her condition and the effects on her work. The onus is on the emcussions on the topic. Hilary Walmsley. Human Reployer to behave reasonably, and on the employee to co-operate with an

investigation of this type. Demonstrate compassion open-ly while also addressing the issue

fairly yet firmly in accordance with policy guidelines. Tell the individual that you are concerned about her absenteeism; that you are monitoring it and that you want to work with her to find the best solution. Tell your line manager that you want support and insist that you meet regularly to discuss/report progress.

Depending on the doctor's prognosis, some options to explore might be counselling, special equipment, or part-time work in her present role; helping her to find another more appropriate role internally or externally, early retirement due to ill health; or a disciplinary process,

which could eventually lead to dismissal. The key is to record information throughout e.g. everyone's absenteeism rates, and all your dis-

sources Partnership, author of Transform Your Management Style (Kogan Page 1998)

There are three related problems in this situation. The first is the sick employee. Absence should be treated consistently throughout an organisation, but that does not mean that an employer cannot be more generous, especially to an employce with an untreatable illness.

The second is the additional hurden the absence is placing on you. The Employment Appeal Tribunal decided in Whitbread plc t/a Thresher v Gullyes 1994 that an employer who did not provide sufficient support for a manager, and so made her job very difficult, was in breach of his implied duty of mutu-

al trust and confidence, which would enable the employee to bring a successful claim of unfair dismissal. Obviously this is a question of degree. Even if your own difficulties are great, your first step should be to raise the matter with your manager, formally if informal attempts have so far failed, and to seek a practical solution to your difficulties.

The third problem is your health. If your health is affected, or likely to be, this too should be drawn to your manager's attention. Your employer has a duty to take reasonable steps to avoid or minimise stress caused by your work - but must be aware of the problem first. Olga Aikin, Senior Partner, Aikin

Driver Partnership, Employment

First of all, try to get more information from your member of staff. Have a meeting and let her know that you both need to recognise there is a problem and the situation can't c.fielding@independent.co.uk

contique. Theo discuss some possible work solutions - perhaps she could have more flexible working patterns which will allow for the ups and downs of her illness, or she could he transferred to a less demanding job within the company.

Ask for temporary help to bridge the gap when she isn't around. Are senior management ignoring the problem because they feel there is nothing they can do about her? This may not be the case. You will need legal advice, but it is possible to dismiss someone on the grounds of incapacity. It may sound harsh but if her illness is never going to get any better and she can't fulfil her con-tractual obligations to you, it is not fair to her or your company to expect her to perform in a job.

Angela Barron Institute of Personnel and Development Policy Advisor

Compiled by CARMEN FIELDING

If you have a work problem and want expert advice, write to Cormen Fielding, Fast Track, Features. The Independent, 1 Conada Square, Canary Wharf. London E145DL: fax 0171-293 2182: e-mail

MANCHESTER GRADUATE RECRUITMENT FAIR

THE ARMITAGE CENTRE, MOSELEY RD, FALLOWFIELD, MANCHESTER 24 & 25 JUNE 104M - 4PM

and strong demand for graduates make June and July an ideal time to plan your future and start job hunting. Summer Fairs have proven to be one of the most effective ways for graduates to get fixed-up with jobs once they have left university and the Manchester Fair is the pick of the bunch.

Alison Gregory, local organiser of the Manchester Fair, stresses the importance of advance preparation: "The employers have real jobs they want to fill now. As with any other meeting with an employer, prepare well in advance and you boost your chances of being one of the ones they choose." The Armitage Centre, where the

THIS YEAR'S buoyant job market Fair takes place, is about three miles south of the city centre. It is on a frequent bus route out of the centre, and has ample parking.

A free private bus service runs from Piccadilly Railway station and Oxford Road Railway station to the Fair, every 20 minutes between 9.40am and 12 noon: If you would like more infor-

mation, contact Alison Gregory on 0161-275 2828 or e-mail alison.gregory@man.ac.uk You can also visit the Manchester University Web-site: (http://www.man.ac.uk/careers/). The site has all the latest infor-

mation about exhibitors and their Good luck!



THE EXHIBITORS

WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE

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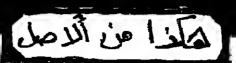
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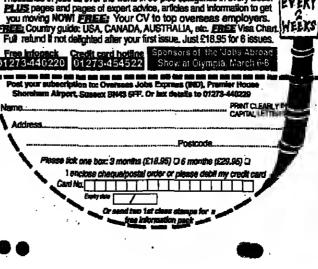
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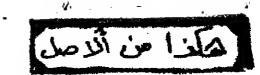
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THURSDAY REVIEW The Independent, 18 June 1998

Widen your Conservation Horizons

Opportunities to Shape its Future The North York Moors National Park, one of the most beautiful and environmentally diverse locations in the U.K. is also home to many communities and

businesses, and a popular lelsure destination. These positions represent an outstanding opportunity for candidates committed to conservation in a living, working landscape

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To lead the innovative conservation team of the National Park, which pioneers and delivers widely acclaimed partnership projects of benefit to the environment, community and economy covering, for example; mooriand management, sheep health, liver habitat regeneration, archaeological.conservation, woodland management and a new integrated Farm and Rural Community Scheme. The vacancy arises from the untimaly accidental death of an inspirational section leader. This post has a key role in securing European funding for many of our projects and a place at some of the tables deciding future policy for conservation of a working countryside. You will head a team of 10 specialist staff and be a key player in the Management Team.

£12,537 to £20,922 ECOLOGIST

Putting Biodiversity Action Plans into practice, this key member of staff will also lead exciting and innovative new partnerships relating to SPA designation of the moorland and the enhancement of the Upper Derwent catchment. A professional ecologist within the Advisory Section, you will also advise all sections of the Authority on nature conservation matters and keep in close contact with English Nature and other conservation bodies.

UPPER DERWENT PROJECT OFFICER £14,337 to £17,319

The details for this new post are not yet fully agreed, but the financial package, incuding substantial EU grant, is almost in place for an exciting scheme to link conservation, recreation and economic benefit in the Upper Derwent in partnership with the local community, Scarborough Borough Council and statutory agencies. Knowledge and enthusiasm for river and fishery management, native crayfish, woodlands and farm conservation would be valuable for this 2 year contract post.

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For an application form and further details please specify post and send a large stamped addressed envelope to The National Park Officer, North York Moors National Park Authority, The Old Vicarage, Bondgate, Helmsley, York YO62 58P. Closing date for all posts: 26th June 1998.





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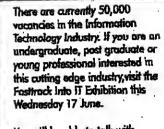
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We are seeking telecommunications professionals who cao contribute at a strategic level to the development of regulatory policy and participate in consultations with industry. You will have a degree in telecommunications, electronics or software engineering with 5 years' experience in the iodustry. Knowledge of network planning and development, new technologies and services, network operation, tariff structures and billiog or interconcect management would be an advantage. (Ref. DTR/1UK02)

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developments and proposals for regulatory changes and prepare forecasts and analyses of the commercial investment implications of developments in the telecommunications industry. You will gather market intelligence, undertake research, and provide data as required to support negotiations on complex telecommunications issues. You will most likely post-qualification experience in banking or other financial

Telecommunications Business Analyst

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be a graduate in economics or accounting and have substantial services organisations. You will also possess specialist statistical and analytical skills, have a very high level of numeracy and husiness acumen and highly-developed PC literacy skills. (Ref. DTR/IUE03)

Legal Advisors (Regulatory and Litigation)

We require legal experts to represent the interests of the ODTR; provide legal advice internally; ensure that documentation, especially licences, conform to legal requirements: provide legal advice on particular projects and manage the litigation process. You will have substantial postqualification commercial experience as a barrister or solicitor gained in practice or as a company lawyer. In-depth knowledge of administrative law, relecommunications law, competition law, European law, commercial and coounct law, or wide experience of liogation, is required. An understanding of the statutory obligations, duties and regulatory priorities of the ODTR and the ability to draft legislation is required. Excellent communication, advocacy, oegotiation and persuasion skills are essential. (Ref. DTR/1UE04)

Please apply in strict confidence enclosing a comprehensive CV and quoting the appropriate reference number to: Gillian Coyle, Executive Recruitment Services, Deloitte & Touche Management Consultants, Deloitte & Touche House, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2, Ireland. Tel: +353 1 4754433. Fax: +353 1 4756186. E-mail: gillian.coyle@deloitte.ie or visit our web site at http://www.deloitte.ie Closing date for applications: 23 June 1998.

> Consultants The ODTR has an on-going need for term assignment and project based mmunications consultants in areas such as cost accounting, economics, financial analysis, technical and regulatory affairs and, from time to time, in support functions such as HR and IT. If you are interested in applying for inclusion on a panet which will be referred to for future opportunities, please send your CV directly to: The Finsaclal Controller, ODTR, Block DEF, Abbey Court, Irish Life Centre, Abbey Street, Dublin 1. Visit our web site at http://www.odtr.ie (Ref. DTR/IUK05)

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NEW FILMS

THE GIRL WITH BRAINS IN HER FEET (15) little effect, and Charles Matthau gets unimpressing the Parameter Parameter Parameter Parameter (15) Starring: Joanna Ward, John Thompson

If you believe what you see in The Girl with Brains in Her Feet, then Leicester was the most oversexed city in England at the start of the 1970s. No wonder the film's teenage heroine, Jack Nie Long, Michael Beach (Joanna Ward), is in such a tizzy with her hormones - at just 13 years old, she has to contend with an English teacher who reads the raciest passages of Lody Chotterley's Lover aloud to his class in hushed, seductive tones, and an art emerges with dignity intact. tutor who unveils a baby-oiled Adonis as the new life-drawing project.

THE APOSTLE (12)

Director: Robert Duvall

Starring: Robert Duvall, Farrah Fawcett, Billy Bob Thornton, Miranda Richardson Robert Duvall's direction is elegant and cool, but

his performance as the preacher obsessed with and possessed by God is outstanding for all the opposite reasons. Duvall plunges into the role of Sonny in the same way that Sonny is engulfed by his religion, and the effect is terrifying and entrancing all at once.

THE BIG SWAP (1B) Director: Niail Johnson

Starring: Mark Adams, Sorcha Brooks Taking off from the key party in The Ice Storm,

this follows a group of five couples whose lives disintegrate wheo they start swapping partners. A drab, unconvincing and preachy drama played out against Sunday supplement locations.

THE GRASS HARP (PG)

Director: Charles Matthau Starring: Walter Matthau, Jack Lemmon, Sissy Spacek, Mary Steenburgen, Piper Laurie, Charles Duming, Roddy McDowall

An adaptation of Truman Capote's novel about the lives and loves that intersect in a southern American town in the 1940s. Unfortunately, it plays like a more deranged version of Anthony Perkins rather drably, like a particularly humdrum episode of The Woltons. A fine cast has been assembled to

sive results from directing his father, Walter

SOUL FOOD (15)

Director: Georga Tillman Jr Starring: Vanessa L Williams, Vivica A Fox,

A black version of Parenthood, with all the attendant moralising, centimentality and studied eccentricity which that implies. Only the marvellously sassy Mekhi Phifer (Clockers)

A THOUSAND ACRES (15)

Director: Jocelyn Moorhouse Starring: Jessica Lange, Michelle Pfeiffer, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Jason Robards

When a crotchety but revered farmer (Jason Robards) decides to divide up his land between his three daughters, he is aghast that the youngest (Jennifer Jason Leigh) should question his actions, and promptly excludes her from proceedings - not because it's a plausible reaction, but rather because A Thousand Acres has King Lear as its template.

Jessica Lange and Michelle Pfeiffer get to do a lot of crying and bonding, but their talents are wasted, and the film'e final bid for tear-jerker status is cold and calculated

STIFF UPPER LIPS (15)

Director: Gary Sinyor Starring: Peter Ustinov, Prunella Scales, Samuel West, Sean Pertwee, Georgina Cates

A series of inspired riffs on Merchant/Ivory productions, this is one of the most cheerfully pleasurable British movies in recent memory

HOTEL DE LOVE (15)

Director: Craig Rosenberg Starring: Aden Young, Saffron Burrows, Simon Bossell, Pippa Granison

An Australian romaotic comedy, severely hampered by the fact that its leading man looks

GENERAL RELEASE

AFTERGLOW (15)

Two couples - fiftysomethings Nick Nolte and Julie Christie, and twentysomethings Lara Flynn Boyle and Jonny Lee Miller - swap partners and wry aphorisms in the latest urbane comedy from writer-director Alan Rudolph.

THE BIG LEBOWSKI (18)

"Dude" Lebowski (Jeff Bridges) is a long-haired relic from the 1970s who spends his days bumming around Los Angeles getting stoned and going bowling with his buddies. But there's another Lebowski in the vicinity and a case of mistaken identity sparks off one of the most strung-out mysteries ever.

BLUES BROTHERS 2000 (PG)

Eighteen years after the release of the startlingly unfunny The Blues Brothers, John Landis and his co-writer Dan Aykroyd have contrived to resurrect the story of Elwood Blues (Aykroyd) who, after the death of his brother, re-emerges from prison and decides to put the old band back together. The film is certainly all-out stupid, but it is also rather endearing.

THE BUTCHER BOY(15)

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Neil Jordan's film of Patrick McCabe's blackly comic novel about a maniac, precocious 12 year old in 1960s Ireland has a macabre thrill about it that is genuinely seductive. Jordan's depiction of the world as seen through the deranged eyes of young Francie (the astounding Eamonn Owens) is so rich and unsparing that it pulls you into the movie in the manner of a Grimm fairytale.

DAD SAVAGE (18)

Patrick Stewart sheds his Star Trek image to play a tulip-growing, Country & Western-obsessed, East Anglian crime boss in this worthy attempt at re-inventing the British thriller.

DARK CITY(15) Alex Proyas, director of The Crow, returns with with another over-the-top urban nightmare. Amnesiac suspected serial-killer Rufus Sewell is pursued by dour inspector William Hurt and Richard O'Brien as one of a sinister breed of aliens known as "The Strangers".

DECONSTRUCTING HARRY (18) Woody Allen's most honest and intelligent film in more than a decade.

DEEP IMPACT (12) A meteor the size of New York is on a collision course with the Earth unless astronaut Robert Duvall can intercept it. Ropey characterisation and a complete absence of wit are only the worst things about this heavy-handed disaster movie.

FISTS IN THE POCKET (NC) A new print of Marco Bellochio's 1965 classic.

THE GENERAL (15) John Boorman's best film in two decades charts the career of Dublin gangster Martin Cahill, who ran rings round the Gardai with a series of heists before the IRA put him out of business in 1994.

THE HANGING GARDEN (15) Gay hero, Sweet William, returns home for the wedding of his sister (Kerry Fox), who is

marrying the boy that William once had a crush on, in this disarming drama. JACKIE BROWN (15)

In Jackie Brown, the eponymous flight attendant (Pam Grier) and mobster Ordell (Samuel L Jackson) whom she's moonlighting for take centre stage. But the movie's main focus is the desperation of each of its characters to make some thing of their lives before it's too late.

A novel by Ruth Rendell is the unlikely origin of Pedro Almodovar's most accomplished film to date, though the action has been shifted to Madrid and crammed with sexual symbolism so potent it leaves you reeling.

Adrian Lyne's remake of Kubrick's stylish Nabokov adaptatioo lacks spirit and adventure.

LOVE ETC (15)

The meandering French drama stars Charlotte Gainsbourg as a woman torn between her husband and his best friend. THE MAGNIFICENT AMBERSONS (U)

A welcome re-release for Orson Wells's 1942

near-masterpiece about a wealthy family whose conflicting emotions tear them apart. MARTHA - MEET FRANK, DANIEL

& LAURENCE (15) This intermittently engaging romantic cornedy sees Martha, an American visiting London on a whim,

going on separate dates with three men who turn out to be best friends. MY SON THE FANATIC (15) Hanif Kureishi establishes an opposition between

an agreeable, progressive Pakistani taxi driver and his son, who has his sights set on becoming a fundamentalist Muslim.

NOWHERE (18) One-man film factory Gregg Araki returns to the nihilistic landscape of The Doom Generation with another hallucinatory journey through an LA underground inhabited by young ambisexual drifters, sado-masochists, airheads - and, this time around, a few aliens for good measure.

ONCE UPON A TIME... WHEN WE WERE COLORED (NC) Nostalgic look back to life in 1940s Mississippi

THE REAL BLONDE (15) Tom DiCillo's prickly satire on the fashion industry doesn't have enough original or incidental ideas to

go around, but it is charmingly played by a game cast, and littered with surprises and fizzy one-liners. RED CORNER (15) Richard Gere's very public pro-Tibet stance must have blinded him to the failings of this clunking

piece of anti-Chinese propaganda. THE REPLACEMENT KILLERS (18)

Executive produced by Hong Kong action director John Woo, this is an attempt to launch the American career of his favourite star, Chow Yun-SLIDING DOORS (15)

A romantic comedy set in the space-time continuum, sending its heroine, Gwyneth Paltrow, off into two separate realities at the same time, with two different suitors (John Hannah and John Lynch). STAR KID (PG)

Amiable children's adventure about a young boy (Joseph Mazello from Jurussic Park) who's called upon to save the universe. What it lacks in budget it makes up for in imagination.

THE TASTE OF CHERRY (PG) The winner of last year's Palme d'Or has taken a year to get a release over here, and it's not hard to see why, it's a hypnotic and moving experience.

TITANIC (12) Rose (Kate Winslet) is about to marry into obscene wealth, but has deserted her fiance at the last minute for Jack (Leonardo DiCaprio), a ragamuffin from the wrong side of the tracks.

VASHINGTON SQUARE (PG) Bringing up the rear of the latest Henry James boom comes the story of a mousy New York heiress (Jennifer Jason Leigh) whose dour father (Albert Finney) forbids her marriage to a dashing but pen-

niless suitor (Ben Chaplin). THE WEDDING SINGER (12) A shamelessly dumb but very winning comedy about a romantic wedding singer (Soturday Night Live's Adam Sandler) who falls in love with a waitress (Drew Barrymore).

WEST END NUMBERS

(0171 except where noted; Some agents may levy a

8891; Chelsea 351 3742; Clapham Picture House 498 3323; Curzon Mayfair 369 1720; Curzon Minema 369 1723; Curzon Phoenix

Phoenix 0181-883 2233; Plaza

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

Film Ryan Gilbey

TODAY IS National Road Movie Day. Or maybe I'm making it up. Anyway, let's assume it is. So what better reason than to catch up on the wonderful Western, which isn't a western at all, but a breezy ramble around Brittany in the company of two mismatched drifters - a disgruntled shoe salesman and the runtish little thief who stole his car. A touch arecdotal. but utterly charming just the same. Watershed, Bristol (0117-925 3845) 5.45pm.

8.20pm: Glascow Film Theatre (0141-332 8128) 8.15pm. Paris. Texas is a western, of course, and a road movie, too - it's Wim Wenders' loose remake of The Searchers, with Harry Dean Stanton as the wanderer who appears out of nowhere to seek out his estranged wife (Nastassja Kinski, above). Ry Cooder's dusty, twangy score, and the pain in the creases of Stanton's face, will stay in your head forever. I think it's the last great film that Wenders made. Cornerhouse, Manchester (0161-200 1500) 5.10pm, 8pm

Theatre Dominic Cavendish

THE PAIRING of two short Sixties farces, Tom Stoppard's The Real Inspector Hound and Peter Shaffer's Black Comedy, has proved an artistic and commercial triumph for Warehouse Productions, the company set up by Sam Mendes to bring more challenging fare into the West End. Hound, a spoof thriller that embroils two theatre critics in its corny schemata, paves the way perfectly for the cerebral in-the-dark buffoonery of Black Comedy.

Paul Taylor described Laurence Boswell's production of Bartholomew Fair (right) as "the most brilliantly and most critics agreed. Ben Jonsoo's sprawling Jacobean comedy is set in the notorious fair that took place in Smithfield on St Bartholomew's Day, but Boswell has imposed a riotous Notting Hill carnival feel to it. It may seem like it lasts as long, but bustling performances all round allow you to join in the double-dealing, anti-puritanical fun.

Comedy Theatre, Panton Street, London SW1

entertaining breach of the peace the RSC has served up in a long time".

RSC Swan, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire (01789 295623) 7.30pm

Classical Music Duncan Hadfield THE A CAPELLA sextet, The King's Singers, incredibly notch up their 30th anniversary this year, yet continue to sing out loud with a range of vibrant, up-to-theminute repertoire, as they team up with virtuoso percusssionist Evelyn Glennie (right). Steve Martland, Michael Gordon, David

Horne and even Paul Simon are among the eclectic line-up of composers represented. Bridgewater Hall, Manchester (0161-907 9000) 7.30pm Handel fever mounts: the Italian opera seria Rodelinda at Glyndebourne and now, a later, under-aired, English oratorio about another formidable lady - the Old Testament Athalia - in the annual Handel oratorio performance from the prestigious Lufthansa Festival of Barrome

Visual Art Richard Ingleby

THE MATERIAL that an artist chooses to paint on, regardless of the artist, regardless of the time and place in which they work, might seem

Music. Staunch Handelian Ivor Bolton conducts his own St James's

quintet of vocal soloists including Lynne Dawson in the title role.

St James's Church, Piccadilly, London W1 (0171-222 1061) 7pm.

Baroque Players, the choir of Clare College Cambridge and an impressive

rather like a loose link between one painting and another, but Rosanna Wilson Stephens has used the theme of paint on panel as an excuse to assemble a delightful exhibition. In particular, there are three large and wonderfully stylish panels by Jacob Kramer (right) and an utterly beautiful little landscape sketch by Augustus John. The show only runs four days but is well worth seeing. Wilson Stephens Fine Art, 11 Cavendish Road, London NW6 (0181-4509 0760) to 20 Jun. It is appropriate that a touring exhibition of work by Mary Potter should start at the Aldeburgh Festival, for she lived in this seaside town for the last 30 years of her life, and it was here that her work shifted towards the sort of quiet, landscape-

based abstraction for which she is best remembered, "Enchanting moments of heightened perception", in the words of Sir Kenneth Clarke.

CINEMA WEST END

(0171-369 1731) 7.30pm

AFTERGLOW (15) Odeon Haymarket 2pm, 6pm, 8.35pm (+ Short: Stung)

THE APOSTLE (12) Screen on the Hill 2.55pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm Screen on the Green 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Berbican Screen 6pm, 8.40pm Notting Hill Caronet 2.20pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Empire Leicester Square 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.50pm, 8.50pm Ritzy Cinema 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.40pm

AS GOOD AS IT GETS (15) ABC Pantoa Street 2pm, 5pm, 8pm

LE BALLON D'OR (U) Ritzy Cinema 1.50pm THE BIG LEBOWSKI (18) Virgin Fullram Road 1,30pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.30pm ABC Panton Street 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Phoenix Cinema 3.45pm Odeon Camden Town 12.35pm. 3.20pm, 6pm, 9.05pm Warner Village West End 1pm, 3.50pm, 9.30pm UCI Watteleys 7.15pm

THE BIG SWAP (18) Virgin Fulham Road 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 9.15pm Plaza 12.35pm, 3.15pm,

DAD SAVAGE (18) ABC Piccadilly 1.25pm, 6.05pm DARK CITY (15)

Warner Village West End 11.55am, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm Odeoa Marble Arch 12.10om, 5.55om Virgin Trocaders 12,20pm, 2,30pm, 4,45pm, DECONSTRUCTING

HARRY (18) Phoenix Cineme 1.15pm, 9pm ABC Swiss Centre 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm DEEP IMPACT (12) Empire Leicester Square 12noon, 3pm, 6pm Odeon Marble Arch 12.10pm,

3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.50pm UCI Whiteleys 3.55pm, 6.40pm, 9.25pm Virgin Trocadero 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.40pm Virgin Fulham Road 12.30pm, 3.25pm, 8.10pm, 8.55pm THE GENERAL (15) Virgin Haymarket 2:15pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Ritzy Cinema 3.30pm, 6.20pm

+ Short: Dance Lexie Dance) Warner

Village West End 1.05pm, 3.55pm, 6.50pm Clapham Picture House

12.30pm, 3pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Odeon Camden Town 12.05pm, 2.55pm, 5.50pm, 8.50pm THE GIRL WITH BRAINS IN HER FEET (15) Ritzy Cinema 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.20pm ABC Panton Street 1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm ABC

6.40pm, 9.35pm GOOD WILL HUNTING (15) ABC Panton St 2.10pm, 5.15pm, 8.10pm THE GRASS HARP (PG) ABC Piccadilly 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm,

Tottenham Court Road 1.20pm, 4pm,

THE HANGING GARDEN (15) ABC Piccadilly 3.50pm, 8.40pm HAPPY TOGETHER (15) ABC Swiss Centre 6.20pm

HOTEL DE LOVE (15) Warner Village West End 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.10pm Virgin ero 12noon, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm UCI Whiteleys 4.30pm,

7pm, 9.35pm JACKJE BROWN (15) Plaza 12.50pm

KUNDUN (12)

ABC Swiss Centre 1.10pm, 3.45pm, LA. CONFIDENTIAL (18) Phoesix Cinema 6.150m

LIVE FLESH (18) Gate Notting Hitl 4.30pm, 9.05pm Curzon Minema 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Odeon Camden Town 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Metro 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Screen on Baker Street 3.45pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm Richmond Filmhouse 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8,45pm Ritzy Cinema 9,10pm Renotr 4,10pm, 6,25pm, 8,40pm

LOLITA (18) Warner Village West End 11.40am, 2.25pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Virgie Haymarket 1.30pm, 5,15pm, 8pm

MARTHA - MEET FRANK, DANIEL & LAURENCE (15) Virgia Cheleee 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Odeon West End 4.05pm, 8.50pm

ABC Swiss Centre 3.55pm, 8.40pm NOWHERE (18) Metro 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm THE REAL BLONDE (15)

MY SON THE FANATIC (15)

ABC Swiss Centre 1,30pm, 6pm RED CORNER (15) Odeon Marble Arch 12.25pm, 3.15pm, 6.10pm, 9.20pm Plaza 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Virgia Fulkara Road 2.10pm, 5.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Virgia Trocadero 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.30pm, 8.30pm

THE REPLACEMENT

4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm

KILLERS (18) Virgin Trocadero 12noon, 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 9pm UCI Whiteleys 6.10pm, 9.45pm THE SCARLET TUNIC (12)

SCREAM 2 (18) Warner Village West End 3.20pm,

SHALL WE DANCE? (PG)

6pm, 8.40pm **SLIDING DOORS** (15) UCI Whiteleys 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Empire Leicester Square 12.20pm. 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8pm Virgin Trocadero 2.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.40pm Virgin Fulham Road 2.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.55pm ABC Baker Street 1.20pm.

ottenham Court Road 1.25pm,

4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.25pm SOUL FOOD (15) UCI Whiteleys 3,30pm, 6,25pm, 9pm Ritzy Cinema 2pm, 4,20pm, 6,45pm, 9,15pm Odeon Kensington 6,50pm, 9.30pm Ria Cinema 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Virgin Trocadero 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm **Warner Village** Wast End 12.50pm 3.40pm, 8.20pm, 9pm Virgin Chaisea 12.45pm, 3.30pm,

STIFF UPPER LIPS (15) Vergin Chelsea 2pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Plaza 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.10pm Warner Village West End 11.45am, 1.55pm, 4.10pm, 6.25pm, 8.40pm UCL Whiteleys 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm

STRAIGHT NO CHASER (PG) Phoenix Cinema 6.15pm + Round Midnight THE TASTE OF CHERRY

noir 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm A THOUSAND ACRES (15) ABC Shaftesbury Avenue 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Curzon Mayfair 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Virgis Fulham Road 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm Clapbam Picture House 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Odeou Camden Towa 12.50pm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm

TITANIC (12) Warner Village West End 12noon, 4pm, 8pm Odean Markle Arch 11.45am, 3.55pm, 8pm U.S. MARSHALS (15) Warner Village West End 12.30pm,

WASHINGTON SQUARE (PG) Gate Notting Hill 2.05pm, 8.40pm Virgin Haymarket 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Screon on Baker Stroet 3.15pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm Chelsea Cinama 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

THE WEDDING SINGER (12) Barbican Screen 6.30pm, 8.40pm Clapham Picture House 1.15pm, 3.15pm, 5.15pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm Odeon Markle Arch 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.25pm, 9.05pm **Pitzy Cinema** 2.25pm, 4.35pm, 8.50pm, 9.05pm Odoon Kensington: 7.10pm, 9.40pm ABC Tottenham Court Road 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm ABC Baker

Street 1,50pm, 4,10pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Odeon Camden Town 1.15pm, 3.45pm 0.6.15pm, 8.35pm UCl White-leys 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Virgin Chelsee 2pm, 5.20pm, 8pm 0.45pm West End 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 8.55pm, 8. 6.25pm, 8.45pm WILD THINGS (18)

Odeon Marble Arch 3.05pm, 8.50pm Odeon West End 1.20pm, 6.20pm WISHMASTER (18) Warner Village West Entl 9,50pm

CINEMA

LONDON LOCALS PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) & Park Royal Derk City 2.50pm, 7.10pm Deconstructing Harry 6.40pm Deep Impact 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm Red Corner 1.10pm, 4pm, 9.20pm The Replacement Killers 6pm, 8.05pm, 10.15pm Scream 2 9.30pm Sliding Doors 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Soul Food 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7cm, 9.50pm, Star Kirl 5.10pm, Stiff 7pm, 9.50pm Star Kid 5.10pm Stiff Upper Lips 1.20pm, 3.35pm, 5.45pm, 7.55pm, 10.05pm Titanic 1.10pm,

5.10pm The Wedding Singer 1.50pm,

ABC Shaffesbury Avenue 1.35pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm ODEON (0181-507 8444) & Barking The Big Lehowski 1.05pm, 3.35pm, 8,05pm, 8.35pm Blues Brothers 2000 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 5.55pm, 8.30pm Deep Impact 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm MouseHunt 12.55pm, 2.55pm, ABC Swiss Centre 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 4.55pm Stiff Upper Lips 12.40pm,

> 7pm. 9.05pm BARNET ODEON (0181-315 4210) & High Barnet Blues Brothers 2000 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Deep Impact 2.45pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm The Searlet Tunic 2.35pm, 4.50pm, 6.55pm, 9.05pm Sliding Doors 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 8.45pm, 9pm The Wedding Singer .40pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.50pm

2.45pm, 4.50pm, 6.55pm, 9pm The

Wedding Singer 12.15pm, 2.25pm, 4.35pm, 8.45pm, 8.55pm Wishmaster

ABC (0870 9020412) 8R: Beckenham Junction Sliding Doors 2.30pm, 8.10pm, 8.40pm Washington Square 2.10pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Wedding linger 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm BEXLEYHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR: 1,30pm, 4pm City Of Angels 6.45pm, 9,20pm Deep Impact 11.15am, 1.50pm, 4.25pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Picture Perfect 12noon, Som Red Corner 6.45pm, 9.20pm Scream 2 9.40pm Seven Years in Tibet 3pm, 9pm Silding

Doors 11.40am, 2pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm,

9.25pm Soul Food 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Stiff Upper Lips 12.45pm, 3pm,

5.15pm, 7.30pm A Thousand Acres 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 5.45pm, 8pm Thanic 12noon, 4.10pm, 8.15pm The Wedding Singer 1pm, 3.15pm, 5.20pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm Wishmaster 10.15pm ODEON (0181-315 4211) BR: Bromley North Blues Brothers 2000 2pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Deep Impact

CATFORD ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Catford, Soul Food 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm The Wedding Singer 1.15pm, 3.45pm. 6.15pm, 8.45pm

CROYDON

2.05pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm The Wedding

Singer 1.45pm, 4.10pm, 6.35pm, 9pm

CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030)

8R: Croydon West Regeoeration 1.30pm Washington Square 3.45pm. 6.10cm, 8.35cm FAIRFIELD HALLS (688 9291) 8R: East Croydon TweatyFourSeven 7.45pm

. 6.05pm, 8pm Wishmaster 6.05pm, 8pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) 8R: East Croydon Dark City 4.20pm Deconstructing Harry 9.10pm Deep Impact 3.40pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm Red Carner 1.50pm, 6.35pm The Replacement Killers 9.15pm Scream 2 9.50pm Sliding Doors Wedding Singer 1.30pm, 3.50pm,

SAFARI (688 3422) BR: West Croydon.

Dark City 6pm, 8pm Wild Things

2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm Soul Food 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Star Kid 5.05pm Stiff Upper Lips 3.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm Titlaric 2pm, 5.50pm, The Wedding Singer 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Wishmaster 3pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm HAMMERSMITH

WARNER VILLAGE (592 2020) O Dagenham Heathway Deconstructing Harry 9.35pm Deep Impact 1.40pm, 4,30pm, 7.05pm, 9.40pm Red Corner 1.45pm, 4.25pm, 7pm, 9.35pm The Replacement Kitlers 6.40pm. 8.40pm, 9.30pm Scream 2 9.50pm Stiding Doors 2pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm,

DAGENHAM

Upper Lips 3pm, 5.10pm, 7.20pm, 10pm Titaeie 2.10pm, 6pm The Wedding Slager 2,40pm, 5pm. -7.10pm, 9.20pm Wishmaster 3.10pm. 5.15pm, 7.20pm, 9.30pm EALING VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-

9pm Saal Food 1.50pm, 4.20pm.

6.50pm, 9.30pm Star Kid 4.20pm Stiff

9070719) BR/-> Ealing Broadway Deep Impact 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Sliding Doors 2.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.40pm Tho Wedding Singer 2pm, 5.20pm, 8pm EDMONTON

LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) O Tottenham Hale The 12 HOLLOWAY Big Swap 4.35pm, 7.25pm, 10.10pm Blues Brothers 2000 4.10pm Dark City 6.30pm, 9.20pm Duplicate 8.25pm Hotel De Lave 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm Red Corner 3.05pm, 5.45pm The Replacement Killers 10.30pm Scream 2 9.40pm Sliding Doors 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm Soul Food 3.25pm, 6.05pm, 8.55pm Star Kld 5pm Stiff Upper Lips 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm Titanic 4.30pm, 8.30pm U.S. Marshals 7.35pm The Wedding Singer 3.35pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Wild Thinge 7.15pm

ELEPHANT & CASTLE CORONET (0171-703 4968)

O Elephant & Castle The Big Lebowski 3.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.10pm Deep Impact 3.25pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm Soul Food 3.20pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm

(0181-867 0555) BR; Feltham Achai

FELTHAM

1am, 5.30pm The Apostle 11am, 1.45pm, 4.30pm, 7.15pm, 10pm Aunty No.1 11.10am, 6pm Blues Brothers 2000 12noon, 2.30pm, 5pm 4.40pm, 7.30pm, 10pm Daplicate 3.20pm, 6.40pm Dushman 12noon, 9.45pm GharwaB Baharwali 2.30pm, 9pm Jab Pyar Kissie Hota Hai 2.10pm, 9.10pm Picture Perfect 12noon, 6pm Red Coraer 2.10pm, 7.15pm The Replacement Killers 7.50pm, 10pm Scream 2 11.40am, 4.40pm, 9.55pm Sevea Years In Tibet 3pm, 9pm Stiding Doors 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 5pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Soul Food 11.50am, 2.20pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.50pm Stiff Upper Lips 11.50am, 3.10pm, 5.20pm, 7.30pm A Thousand Acres 12.30pm 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 10pm Titanie 12noon, 4pm, 8pm The Weddieg Stager 12.50pm, 3pm, 5.10pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm Wishmaster 9.45pm

FINCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 9344) East Finchley/Finchley Central Dark City 2.10pm, 6.40pm Deconstructing Harry 7.35pm Deep Impact 3.05pm, 6pm, 9pm Red Corner 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm The Raplacement Killers 10pm Silding Doors 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm Star Kid 4.20pm Stiff Upper Lips 2.25pm, 5.05pm, 9.50pm A 2.25pm, 5.05pm, 9.50pm / Thousand Acres 1.20pm, 3.50pm 6.20pm, 9.40pm Titanic 1.40pm, 5.40pm The Wedding Singer 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Wishmaster 8.50pm **GOLDERS GREEN**

ABC (0181-455 1724) ← Golders Green The Wedding Singer 1.45pm,

CINEMA (0181-293 0101) 8R: Green-

wich Deep Impact 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm The Goneral 9pm Live Flesh 4.50pm, 6.55pm Sliding Doors 4.30pm, 6.30pm, 8,45pm

4pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm

GREENWICH

HAMPSTEAD ABC (0870-9020413) - Be(size Park Sliding Doors 1.25pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm A Thousand Acres 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm The 6.20pm, 8.50pm

VIRGIN (0870-9070718)

O Reverscourt Park/Hammersmith Deep Impact 3,20pm, 6pm, 9pm Sliding Doors 2.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.40pm Sou Food 3.45pm, 6.30pmm, 9pm Star Kid 12.40pm The Weddiag Sieger 2pm. 5.20pm, 8pm HARROW

SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303)

→ Harrow-on-the-Hitl/Harrow & Wealdstone Dushman 8.45cm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) & Harrow on the Hitl Decenstructing Harry 7.10pm Deep Impect 2.35pm, 5.10pm, 7.50pm, 10.20pm Red Corner 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm The Replacement Killers 9.10pm Stiding Boors 2.25pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm Soul Food 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Star Kid 2.40pm. 5.5pm, 6.30pm Star Ato 2.40pm, 5pm Stiff Upper Lips 3.15pm, 5 20pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm A Thausand Acres 2.05pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 9pm Titanic 2.15pm, 6pm The Wedding Singer 3pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm, 10.30pm Wishmaster 9.50pm

ODEON (0181-315 4213) @ Holloway Road/Archway Deep Impact 3.15pm, 5.55pm, 8.35pm Soul Food 3.35pm. 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm ILFORD ODEON (0181-315 4223) ← Gants Hill Blues Brothers 2000 2.50pm,

5.30pm, 8.10pm Deep Impact 2.20pm,

5.20pm, 8.20pm Stiding Doors 1.40pm,

4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm The Wedding

Singer 1 50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm Wishmaster 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm. 8 55pm KINGSTON ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) 8R: Kingston The Big Swap 1.30pm. 3.15om. 8om Sliding Doors 1.15pm.

3.25pm, 5pm, 8.20pm The Wedding

Slager 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 5.50pm **MUSWELL HILL** ODEON (315 4217) & Highpate CINEWORLD THE MOVIES Deep lanpact 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.35pm Stirling Doors 2.10pm, 4.20pm. 6.30pm, 8.45pm The Wedding Singer

2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm PECKHAM PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR Peckham Rye The Big Lebowski 5.10pm Deep Impact 6.15pm, 8.45pm Hatel De Love 7.05pm, 9.10pm The Regiscement Killers 5.20cm 7.15pm, 9.20pm **Sliding Doors** 6.50pm, 9pm **Soul Food** 6.20pm, 8.50pm

Wishmaster 7.20pm, 9.45pm

PURLEY

ROMFORD

Brothers 2000 8.10pm Dark City 5.15pm, 8.15pm The Wedding Singer PUTNEY ABC (0870 9020401) - Putney Bridge. BR: Putney. Stiding Doors 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Washington

Square 2.150m, 5.15pm, 8.15pm The

ABC (0870-9020407) BR. Purley Blues

ledding Singer 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm RICHMOND STUDIO (0181-315 4218) BR/O Richmond The Scarlet Tunic 2pm, 7.30pm Sliding Boors 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Soul Food 1pm. 3.40pm, 6.25pm, 9.10pm Stiff Upper Lips 4.10pm, 9.40pm The Wedding Singer 1.30pm, 4pm, 7pm, 9.20pm

ABC (0870-9020419) BR: Romford

Deep Impact 2.40nm, 5.40nm Martha

2.10pm, 8.40pm Titanic 4.20pm

The Wedding Sluger 2.20pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Wishmaster 8.40pm

Meet Frank, Daniel & Laurence

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (01708-729040) 8R Romford Blues Brothers 2000 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm Dark City 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 6.20pm. 8.35pm Deep Impact 12.15pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Red Corner 12.05pm, 2.40pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm **Scream 2** 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm Silding Doors 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm A Thousand Acres 12.55pm 3.25pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm The Wedding Singer 12.40pm, 3.05pm, 6.05pm

369 1721; Curzon West End 369

booking fee). ABC Baker St 0870-902 0418; ABC Panton St 0870-902 0404; ABC Piccadilly 287 4322; ABC Shaftesbury Ave 0870-902 0402; ABC Swiss Centre 0870-902 0403; ABC Tottenham Court Rd 0870-902 0414; Barbican 638 1722; Empire Leicester Sq 0990-888990; Gate Notting Hill 727 4043; Metro 734 1506; Notting Hill Coronet 727 6705; Odeon Camden Town 0181-315 4255; Odeon Haymarket 0181-315 4212; Odeon Kensington 0181-315 4214; Odeon Leicester Sq 0181-315 4215; Odeon Marble Arch 0181-315 4216; Odeon Mezzanine 0181-315 4215; Odeon Swiss Cottage 0181-315 4220; Odeon West End 0181-315 4221;

0990-888990; Renoir 837 8402; Richmond Filmhouse 0181-332 0030; Rio 254 6677; Ritzy 733 2229; Screen on Baker St 935 2772; Screen on the Green 226 3520; Screen on the Hill 435 3366; UCI Whiteleys 0990-888 990; Virgin Chelsea 0870-907 0710; Virgin Falham Road 0870-907 0711; Virgin Haymarket 0870-907 0712; Virgin Trocadero 0870-907 0716; Warner Village West Ford 487 4349

TO THE REAL PROPERTY.

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SIDCUP ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidoup Martha Oanlei Meet Frank, & Laurence 1.50pm, 8.45pm Mrs Brown 11.30am, 5.40pm The Wedding Singer 1.45pm, 4.05pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm

STAPLES CORNER VIRGIN 10870-9070717) 8R: Cricklewood Deep Impact 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Red Corner 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.30pm The Replecement Killiers 1.45pm, 3.45pm, 7pm, 9,15pm **89dlog** Doors 2.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.40pm Soul Food 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9pm The Wedding Singer 2pm, 5.20pm, 8pm

STREATHAM ABC (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hill Deep Impact 2 10pm, 5 30pm, 8 25pm The Grass Harp 220pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm Stdlog Doors 2.30pm, 5.35pm, 8.40pm

ODEON (0181-315 4219) 8R: Streatham Hill Dark City 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm The Girl With Brains in Her Feet 1.50pm, 4.15pm. 8.40pm. 8.55pm The Replacement Killers 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm **Sout Food** 12.40pm, 3.20pm, Spm. 8.40pm The Wedding Singer 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

STRATFORD NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (555 3366) BR/ Stratford East The Real Blande 3pm, 6.50pm Sout Food 1.50pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm Titanic 3.30pm, 7.40pm Washing Square 4.15pm, 9.10pm The Wedding Singer 2.50pm, 5pm, 7.10pm, 9.20pm SUTTON

UCI 6 (0990-888990) 8R: Sutton Horden Blues Brothers 2000 3.30pm Deep Impact 3.15pm, 6pm. 8.45pm Red Corner 3.45pm, 6.30pm Bcreem 2 6.15pm Bliding Duors 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Titanic 4pm, 8pm The Wedding Singer 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Wild Things 9pm master 9.45pm

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519)

• Tumpike Lane. The Generat 2.30pm,
5.20pm, 8pm Red Corner 3.20pm,
5.55pm, 8.25pm The Wedding Singer 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

UXBRIDGE ODEON (01895-813139) ← Uxbridge Deep Impact 1.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm The Wedding Singer 1.15pm. 4pm. 6.25pm, 8.45pm

WALTHAMSTOW ABC (0870-9020424) Walthamstow Central Deep Impact 2 30pm, 5.20pm Sout Food 1.35pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.40pm The Wedding Singer 1.25pm, 3.40pm, 5.55pm, 8.30pm Wishmaster 8.40pm WALTON ON THAMES

THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825) 8R. Walton on Thames Silding Doors 3.15pm, 6.25pm, 8.35pm The Wedding Singer 2.25pm, 4.30pm 6.35pm, 8.50pm

WELL HALL CORONET (0181-850 3351) 89. Elinam The Big Lebowski 3.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.10pm The Wedding Singer 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

WIMBLEDON ODEON (0181-315 4222) BR/O WimbledonThe Big Lebowski 2 10pm, 5.10pm, 8.25pm Deep Impact 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Live Flesh 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 5.10pm, 8.40pm Stiding Doors 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 5.10pm, 8.40pm The Wedding Singer 1.10pm. 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm

WOODFORD ABC (0181-989 3463) ← South Woodford The Big Lebowski 8.10pm Deep Impact 2.10pm, 5.40pm Stldmg Doors 2.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm The Wedding Singer 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm

WOOLWICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR. Woolwich Arsenal Deep Impact 3.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm The Replacement Killers 4om, 6.30pm, 8.40pm

CINEMA REPERTORY

LONDON EVERYMAN Hollybush Vale NW3 (0171-435 1525) Alpheville (PG) 1.15pm, 4.45pm + Une Femme Mariee 3pm Stiff Upper Lips (15) 7pm, 9pm ICA The Mall SW1 (0171-930 3647) Nowhera (18) 5pm. 7pm. 9pm

THE LUX Hoxton Square N1 (0171-684 0201) The Chronicle Dt Aona Mandalena Bach IU) 6 30pm + Short The Film Couch: Camp: Carel Morley And Cairo Cannon In Conversation (NC) 8.30pm

NFT South Bank SE1 (0171-633 0274) Titanic (12) 2pm Sci-Fi-Pathfinders: Television (NC) 6.15pm The Blue Dahlia (NC) 6.30pm High Noon (PG) 7.30pm Variety Girl: Veronica Lake (NC) 8.30pm Amateur (15) 8.45pm

PEPSI IMAX The Trocadero, Piccadilly Circus W1 (0171-494 4153) Everest (U) 11.15am, 1.20pm, 3.25pm, 5.30pm, 7.35pm, 9.40pm Across The Sea Of Time - A New York Adventure (3-D) (U) 12.15pm, 2.20pm, 4.25pm, 6.30pm, 8.35pm, 10.40pm

(0181-883 2233) Afterglow (15) 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Deconstructing Herry (18) 1.15pm, 9pm The Big Lebowski (18) 3.45pm L.A. **Confidential (18)** 6.15pm

PRINCE CHARLES Laicester Place WC2 (0171-437 8181) The Sweet Hereafter (15) 1.30pm Face/Off (18) 3,45pm The Ice Storm (15) 6.30pm The Talking Film Series: Q And A With Mike Figgis (NC) 9pm The Talidog Film Series: Milke Figgis (NC) 9pm

RIO Kingstand High St E8 (0171-254 6677) Soul Food (15) 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Road W6 (0181-741 2255/cc 420 0100) Five Easy Pieces (15) 6.30pm + As Good As it Gets 8.30pm

WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentford, Middx (0181-568 1176) Kundun (12) 4.30pm Live Flesh (18) 7pm Mertha - Meet Frank, Daniel & Laurence (15) 9om

BRIGHTON

DUKE OF YORK'S CINEMA (01273-626361) The Real Bloade [15] 4 15pm, 9pm Washington Square (PG) Killers (18): Bebe (U) 6.30pm

WATERSHED (01.17-925 3845)
Western (15) 5.45pm, 8.20pm
Alterplow (15) 6pm The Man to Her
Life (NC) 8.30pm

CAMBRIDGE ARTS (01223-504444) Liar (1B) 12.45pm, 7.20pm The Real Blonds (15) 3pm, 9.30pm Oscar And Lucinda (15) 5pm

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-399666) Hell Drivers (PG) 2pm The Life Story Of David Lloyd George: With Live Music (NC) 7pm Accident (15) 7,30pm

CARDIFF

FILM THEATRE (01473-215544) Washington Square (PG) 2.30pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm Wastern (15) 6pm,

NORWICH CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) The Boxer (15) 2.30pm. 5.45pm TwentyFourSeven (15) 8.15pm

ARTS CENTRE (01752-206114) Junk Mail (15) 8pm

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

BRIGHTON ABC EAST STREET (01273-327010); Sliding Doors (15), The Grass Harp (PG); The Wedding Singer (12) ODEON (01273-207977); The Big Lehowski (18): The Ice Storm (15): The Replacement Killers (18). The Wedding Singer (12); Deep Impact (12), City Of Angels (12); A Thousand Acres (15); Soul Food (15); Dark City (15); MouseHunt (PG)

VIRGEN (0541-555146), Scream 2 (18); City Of Angels (12); The Replacement Killers (18); MouseHunt (PG); Shing Doors (15), Red Corner (15); Star Kid (PG). Stiff Upper Lips (15); Deep Impact (12), The Apostle (12). The Wedding Singer (12); Flother (U)

BRISTOL ARNOLFINI (0117-929 9191); Ulysses' Gaze (PG): The Hunters (18). Shall We Dance? (PG)

CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (01275-831099); Red Corner (15); In & Out (12), Stiding Doors (15), The Re-placement Killers (18): A Thousand Acres (15): Deep Impact (12): Seven Years in Tibei [PG]; Flubber (U). MouseHunt (PG). Wishmaster (18): Scream 2 (18): Martha - Meet Frack, Daciel & Laurence (15). Bines Brothers 2000 IPGI; Babe (U): City Of Angels (12): The Devil's Advocate (18): Dark City (15): The Big Lebowski (18), The Wedding Singer (12); Titanic 112).

Anastasia (U): Sarbans Daani Guru Gobind Singh (PG): Picture Perfect (PG): Star Kid (PG): The Apostle (12): Stiff Upper Lips (15)

ORPHEUS HENLEAZE (0117-962 1644); Stiding Coors (15); Deep Impact (12): Washington Square (PG). Prince Valiant (PG)

ODEON (0117-929 0882), Fluther (U): George Of The Jurigle (U), Scream 2 118). The Remains Of The Day (U): The Wedging Singer (12); Dark City 115). City Of Angels (12): The Land Before Time (U)

ABC WHITELADIES RD (0117-973 3640), Deep Impact (12); City Of Angels (12); Stiding Doors (15), Red Corner (15)

EASTBOURNE CURZON (01323-731441); Wild Things (18); Blues Brothers 2000 (PG); Washington Square (PG): The Wood-landers (PG): Paradise Road (15); Las Voleurs (18); The Tango Lesson (PG);

VIRGIN (0541-555159); Deep Impact (12); A Thousand Acres (15); Star Kid Vedding Singer (12); The nat Killers (18); Sliding (PG); The Weddi Doors (15): Flubber (U); MouseHunt (PG): City Of Angels (12); Red Corner 15), Stiff Upper Lips (15)

NEWPORT ABC (01633-254326); Deep Impact (12); Tranic (12); The Wedding Singer (12) VIRGIN CINEMA (0541-550516); Stiff Upper Lips (15); Wish Titenic (12), Bler Kid (PG); Hotel De Love (15); The Replacement Killers (18); Blues Brothers 2000 (PG); A Thousand Acres (15): Dark City (15): Deep Impact (12], Scream 2 (18): seliunt (PG); The Wedding Singer (12): Flubber (U): City Of Angels (12)

NORWICH-The Borrowers (U) Deep Impact (12) The Grass Harp (PG) MouseHunt (PG) Red Corner (15) Skiding Doors (15) Spiceworld - The Movie (PG) Titanic |12| Wag The Dog (15)

ODEON 101603-661832)Anastasia (U) Been (PG) The Boxer (15) City Of Angels (12) Dark City (15) Flubber (U. Roald Dabi's Matilda (PG) Scream 2 (18) Spiceworld - The Movie (PG) The edding Slager (12)

PORTSMOUTH ABC (01705-823538); Sliding Doors 115), The Grass Harp (PG); Deep

impact (12) Odeon. (01705-664623); **Anastasia** (U); Flubber (U); The Wedding Singer (12); George Of The Jupple (U); Wish-master (18); Paws (PG); Fairytale: A True Stary (U); Amisted (15); City Of Angels (12): Dark City (15): The Replacement Killers (18) UCI 6 (0990-888990); Rad Corner (15) Blues Brothers 2000 (PG):

Oscar And Lucinda (15); Deep Impact (12); Wild Things (18); City Of Angels 12); Titanic (12); Scream 2 (18); William Shakespeere's Romeo + Juliet (12); Sliding Doors (15); Mouselluni (PG); The Wedding Slager (12); Wishmaster (18); Star Kid (PG);

The Devil's Advocate (18); Anastasia (U)

CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (01438-740310); Stiding Doors (15); The Wedding Singer (12); Seven Years in Tibet (PG); Red Corner (15): City Dt Acgels (12): A Dark City (15); Wild Things (18), The Devil's Advocate (18); Martia - Meet Frank, Daniel & Laurence (15): Stiff Upper Lips 115); Deep Impact (12); Titenic (12); Boreem 2 (18); Wishmaster (18); Blues Brothers 2000 (PG); In & Out (12); Star Kird (PG); Duplicate (PG); MouseHunt (PG); Picture Perfect (PG); The Replacement

THEATRE WEST END

Ticket availability details are for today; times and prices for the week; running times include intervals. • -- Seats at all prices D — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matiness — [1]: Sun. [3]: Tue. [4]: Wed. [5]: Thu, [6]: Fri. [7]: Sat

O ART Richard Griffiths, Tony Haygarth, Malcolm Storry in Yasmina Reza's comedy about art and friendship. Wyndham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 [0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111) ↔ Leic Tue-Sat 8pm, [4] 3pm, [7)[1] 5pm. £9.50-£27.50, 90 mins.

AS YOU LIKE IT Shakespeare's literary comedy contrasting the court and the natural world. The Globe New Globe Walk, SE1 (0171-401 9919) London Bridge. In rep. tonight 7.30pm, £5-£20, concs available.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lavish family musical based on Disney's cartoon version of the favourite falsy tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) → Toti C1 Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £17.50-£32.50, 150 mins.

BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musical melodrama. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733)
◆ Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £10.50-£29.50. 165

 BUDDY Musical biog-show racing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 8800) ↔ Covent Garden/Charing X. Tue-Thu 8pm, Fii 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats [1] 4pm, £6.75-£30. 160

CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 10171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) ← Coveni Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£32.50, 165 mins. O CHICAGO Ruthie Henshall stars

in this hit Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055) & Charing X. Morr-Sat Born, [4][7] 2.30pm, £16-£36 (inc booking fee). 130 A CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from

Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber.

Lyric Staffestury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) → Picc Circ. Mon-Saf 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £5-£27,50. **O THE COMPLETE WORKS** OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) Reduced Strakespeare Company tast-lorward through 37 plays. Criterion Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) — Picc Circ. Wed-Sat 8pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 5pm, [1] 4pm, £9.50-£20.

● ELTON JOHN'S GLASSES David Fam's comedy about one man's obsession with Watford Football Club and their failure to win the Cup Final in 1984. Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5590/cc 344 4444) O Picc Circ. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sal 8pm. [4] 3pm. [7] 4pm, £10.50-£27.50.

) GAS STATION ANGEL Story of two lovers who are tated to meet, from the creator of House Of America. Not uitable for children. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) Wesl Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) ← Leic Sq. Mon-Sal 7.45pm, [7] 4pm, ends 27 Jun, £5-£10, benches 10p, Mon & matinees - all seats £5.

DIFFERSE Marissa Duniop stars in the stage version of the hit film. Cambridge Eartham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-£30.

HOW I LEARNED TO DRIVE Paula Vogel's drama about the incestious relationship between a tecnaner and her uncle. Donmar Warehouse Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) Coveni Garden, Mon-Sat 8pm, £12-

£16, concs available. AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christopher Cazenove and Kate O'Mara In Peter Hall's acclaimed production of Wilde's cornedy. Albery St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730/cc 867 1111) ➡ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm.

[7] 4pm, £7.50-£29.50, 165 mins. AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely acclaimed production of JB Priestley's fhriller. Garrick Charing Cross Road, WCZ (0171-494 5085) → Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7]

5pm, £10.50-£25, 110 mins. • KAT AND THE KINGS Musical set in 1950s Cape Town Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-838 9987) BR/→ Charing X, Mon-Thu 8pm, Frl-Sat 5.30pm & 8.30pm, 26.25-£27.50.

. A LETTER OF RESIGNATION Hugh White play about the Protumo atlair and polli-ical morality. Savny Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 836 0479) Charing X/Embankment, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (4) 3pm, [7] 4pm, £12.50-£25. 135 mins.

● MAJOR BARBARA Jemma Redorave and Peter Bowles star in George Berneid Shaw's classic comedy. Piccadilly Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) S Picc Circ. In rep, today 2.30pm & 7.45pm, continuing, £8.50-F27.50

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE Shakespeare's crosscultural comedy. The Globe New Globe Walk, SE1 (0171-401 9919) ← London Bridge. in rep, lonight 7.30pm, £5-£20, concs available.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM Classic tale of love and confusion set in the fairy kingdom. Open Air Regent's Park, NW1 (0171-486 2431/cc 486 1933) - Baker Street. In rep, today 2.30pm & 8pm, ends 5 Sep.

 LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's sprawling 19th-century masterpiece. Palece Shaftesbury Avenue, Wt (0171-434 0909) → Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [5][7] 2.30pm, £7-£32.50. 195 mins. MISS SALGON Musical which

resets the Madam Butlerfly tragedy in Vietnam. Royal, Drury Lane Catherina Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060) ← Covent

Garden. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4][7] 3pm.

£5.75-£32.50, 165 mins.

Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) € Leic So. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 2.45pm, [7] 5om, £9-£23, 135 mins. MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING Declan Donnellan directs

THE MOUSETRAP Agains

Christie's whodurnit. St Martin's West

Cheek By Jowl in a new production of Shakespeare's classic. Playhoose Northumberland Average, WC2 (0171-839) 4401/cc 316 4747) Embankment. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5] [7] 2.30pm, ends 25 Jul. £10-£22.

THE OLD NEIGHBOR-HOOD David Mamet's new play is directed by Patrick Marber. Royal Court (at the Duke Of York's) St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) → Leic So/Charing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [7] 3.30pm, £5-£19.50, benches 100, Mon - all seats £5.

OTHE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical. Her Majasty's Haymarkst, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 344 4444) Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-£32.50, 150 mins. POPCORN Lawrence Boswell

directs Ben Elton's salire on cinema violence. Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, Wi (0171-494 5070) - Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £6.50-£23.50.) THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND & BLACK COMEDY

Double bill of drame from Tom Stoppard and Peter Schaffer, directed by Gregory Doran. Comedy Pariton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) ← Picc Circ/Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30cm. [4][7] 3pm. £7.50-£27.50, 165 mins. D RENT Musical inspired by La Bohème and set in modern-day New York.

Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399) → Holbom/Toti CI Rd. Mon-Sai 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £12.50-£32.50, 160 mhs. ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE

• Olivier: An Enemy Of The People lan McKellen stars in a new version of lbsen's explosive critical drama. In rep. tonight 7.15pm, ends 20 Jun. 180 mins. O Cottesioe: The Day I Stood Still

Revin Elyot's new play, directed by lan Rickson, is based on a friendship torged in the 1960s. In rep. tonight 7.30pm, ends 27 Jun. 110 mins. Offvier & Lyttelton £8-£27. Collesioe: £12-£18. Day seats from 10am. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000) Embankment OSATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hit 1970s musical teaturing songs by the Bee Gees. London Palladium Arayll

Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) & Oxford

Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm,

£10-£32,50, 135 mins. SHOW BOAT Jerome Kern and Dscar Hammerstein's musical set on the Mississipol, Prince Edward Old Compton Street, W1 (0171-447 5400) + Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [5][7) 2,30pm, £10-£35, 180 mins.

SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE -THE SONGS OF LEIBER AND STOLLER The rock-and-roll hitmakers celebrated in a musical revue that includes "Jailhouse Rock". Prince of Wales Coventry Street W1 (0171-839 5972) ← Leic Soffice Circ. Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.45pm & 8.30pm, Sat 3pm & 8pm, £15-£32.50, Fri mats £10-£25. 135

) STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech rollermusical. Apollo Victoria Willon Road. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3)[7] 3pm, £12.50- bankment Road (01733-552439) £30, 150 mins.

• SWEET CHARITY Bornie Langloid stars in this classic musical featuring the numbers "Hey Big Spender" and "The Rhythm Of Life". Victoria Palace Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317) BRV Victoria, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £15-£30.

THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE Jane Asher stars in Alan Ayckboum's cornedy. Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) → Picc Circ. Mort-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £10.50-£27.50.140

THE UNEXPECTED MAN Yasmin Reza's follow-up to Art is a drama about a novelist and a lifetong admirer, Duchess Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 344 4444) O Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 4pm, [7] 5pm, £10-£25. 100 mins.

O THE WOMAN IN BLACK Susan Hill's chilling ghost story, Fortune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 344 4444) & Covent Garder/Holborn. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£23.50. 110 mins.

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

BUSH THEATRE LOVE YOU, TOO Doug Lucie's follow up to Shallow End. Mon-Fri 8pm, ends 27 Jun. £10, concs £7. Shepherd's Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388) ◆ Shepherd's Bush.

THEATRO TECHNIS Love Of Doe Pertimptin & Belise in His Garden Couble bill of drama from Lorca, Mon-Fri 7.45pm, ends 27 Jun. £8, concs £5. Crowndale Road, NW1 (0171-383 5450) ← Camden Town/ Mornington Crescent.

THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

BATH TWO BY PINTER: THE COLLECTION & THE LOVER Harold Pinter's double-bill. Mon-Wed 7,30pm, Thu & Fri 8pm, mat Wed 2,30pm, ends 20 Jun. £10-£21.50. St. Johns Place (01225-448844/cc 01225-448861)

LANDFORD FORUM BRYANSTON ARTS CENTRE April in Paris John Godber's comedy about the English abroad. Thu 8.15pm. £7. concs £6. Bryanston (01258-456533) BRIDGWATER

BRIDGWATER ARTS CENTRE The Great Gataby Stage One Theatre Company's musical adaptation of F Scott Fitzperaid's novel. Thu 8pm. £6, concs £4.50. Castle Street (01278-422700) BRISTOL HIPPODROME THEATRE Booole

Nights Shane Richle stars in a brand new

1970s musical, Mon-Fii 7,30mm, mai

Wed 2.30pm, ends 20 Jun. £6-£20.50,

(0117-929 9444)

OCTAGON THEATRE The Business Of Murder Psychological thriller about revenue within a trianquiar relationship. Tue-Fri 7.30pm, ends 20 Jun. £7.50-£10.50, concs available. Hendlord cones available. St. Augustines Parade (01935-422884)

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

First Call

and the second s

STEVEN BERKOFF (right) brings his latest one-man show to the West End. Berkoff will take centre stage with a white spotlight thrust upon his expressive face. He is to explore the darkness in Shakespeare's baddies in "Shakespeare's Villains; a Masterclass in Evil". It should appear less Berkoff miming and more lago, Mr and Mrs Macheth and Hamlet all nattering at once. Theoire Royal, Haymarket, London SW1 (0171-930 8800) from 30 June for six weeks only, £8-£17.50.

TICKETS TO see comedian Lee Hurst are selling like mad. The quick-fire comic is best known as the baid one from They Think It's All Over. Hurst's 10 years on the circuit have hoped wisecracks and one liners to side splitting sharpness. Don't miss out.

Wypern Theatre, Swindon (01793 535534) IS Oct. Com Exchange, Cambridge (01223 457553) 23 Oct. Pavilion Theatre, Bournemouth (01202 456456) 29 Oct. Corn Exchange, Cambridge (01223 457555) 30 Oct; Regent Theatre, Ipswich (01473 215544) 3 Nov; Assembly Rooms, Derby (01332 255443) 5 Nov; Colston Hall, Bristol (0117-922 3682) 15 Nov; Civic Hall, Wolverhampton (01902 552121) 16 Nov.

CANTERBURY MARLOWE THEATRE The Goodbye Girl Marti Webb and Gary Wilmot star. Tue-Fri 7.30pm, mats Wed & Thu, 2.30pm, ends 20 Jun. £9.50-£21. concs available. The Friars

CARDIFF NEW THEATRE West Side Story Bernstein and Sondheim's musical gangland version of Romeo and Juliet, Mo Fri 7.30pm, mat Thu 2.30pm, ends 4 Jul. £10-£25.50. Park Place (01222-878889).

CHELTENHAM EVERYMAN THEATRE KIND Hearts And Coronets Robert Powell and Colin Baker star in this story about a ninthin-the-line aristocrat determined to claim his title by murderous means. Mon-Fri 7.45om, med Thu 2om, ends 20 Jun. 55-£15.50. Regent Street, (01242-572573).

THE OTHER SPACE AT THE EVERYMAN THEATRE Dancing Under The Bridge Story of two Romanian refugees forced to eke out a living in Potterdam in 1989. Tue-Fri Born. ends 20 Jun. £6. Regent Street (01242-572573).

MALVERN MALVERN FESTIVAL THEATRE

The 7 Ages Of Woman Barbara Dickson stars in this drame tollowing one woman's life from cradle to grave. Mon-Fri 8pm, ends 20 Jun. £12-£16, soccs available, Grange Road (C1654-892277)

APOLLO THEATRE Spring And Port Wine Vintage comedy about a disciplinatian tather whose daughter finally challenges his authority. The-Fit 7.30pm. mat Wed. 2.30pm. Ends 20 Jun. £9-£14.50. concs available. George Street (01865-244544)

PETERBOROUGH KEY THEATHE Spider's Web : Auder mystery from the mistiess of suspense, Agatha Christie. Mon-Thu 7.30pm. Frl 8pm, met Thu 2.30pm, ends 20 Jun. SW1 (0171-416 6070) 8P/→ Victoria. £9.50-£11.50, concs available. Em-

> READING THE MILL AT SONNING Waiting Game Thriller set during a lictional conflict in Spain, from Anthony Valentine. Tue-Fri 8, 15pm, ends 27 Jun. 220.95-£31.95, including meal. Sonning Eye (0118-969 8000)

REDHILL THE HARLEOUIN Entertaining Mr Sleane Joe Orton's cornedy about a manipulative young lodger who wins the affections of his landlady and her brother. Thu 8cm, £7.50, concs available, London Road (01737-765547)

RICHMOND RICHMOND THEATRE Shopping And F***ing Drama about being young and over-educated in the 1990s. Mon-Thu 7.45pm, Fri 6pm & 9pm, ends 20 Jun. £7-£18. The Green, (0181-940 0088)

SOUTHAMPTON THE GANTHY Not About Heroes friendship of Wilfred Owen and Sipfried Sassoon, Thu Born, £6, concs £4,50, Off Blechynden Teirace, SO1 (01703-

MAYFLOWER THEATRE From A Jack To A King Bob Carlton's rock-androll reworking of Macbeth. Mon-Thu 7.30pm, Fri Som & 8.30pm, ends 20 Jun. £10-£19.50. Commercial Road (01703-

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON THE OTHER PLACE Roberto Zocco Kolles dram inspired by a wanted poster. In rep. 17 Jun. 7.30pm. continuing. £12-£19 Goodnicht Children Everywhere Drama about the fragility of family relationships. In ep. lonight 7.30pm, continuing. £12-

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE Twelfth Kight Adrian Noble directs . In 189, today 1.30pm, continuing. £5-£37. continuing. £5-£37.
The Merchant Of Venice Stakespeare's drama about tove and money. In rep. tonight 7.30pm, continuing. £5-£37. Waterside (01789-295523)

SWAN THEATRE The Two Seotlemen Ol Vergea Directed by Edward Hall. In rep. today. .30pm, continuing. £5-£31 Bartholomew Fait Jonson's theatrical drame is sympathetically staged for the RSC. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, continuing. £5-£31, Waterside (01789-295623)

PALACE THEATRE Schippet, The Plumber Sharp satire about an elitist male quartet who are forced to take on a striging olumber, Mon-Thu 7.45orn, Fri 8orn, Wed 2.30pm, ends 27 Jun. £4-£15, concs £4-£8.50. Clarenton Road

EXHIBITIONS

REYHILL-ON-SEA DE LA WARR PAVILION Carving Mountains: Modernist Carving in England 1911-1936 Important collection of sculpture and relief carvings. Mon-Fri 12am-7pm, Sat & Sun 11am-9om, ends Jun. itee. (01424-787949)

BRIGHTON BRIGHTON MUSEUM & ART GALLERY A Serreal Lite: Edward lames Surealist work from the major pefrom oil concemposary art's collection. Man. Tue, Thu-Sat 10am-5cm, Sun 2pm-5pm, ands 26 Jul, isse, Church Street (01273-290900)

HOVE MUSEUM & ART GALLERY In The Mind's Eye: Surrealist Works On Paper Featuring major surrealists such as Deli, Max Ernsl and Edward Burra, Tira-Fri (13am-5pm, Sal 10am-1.50pm, Sur Zorn-5pm, ends 5 Jul, free, New Court Fired (01275-

CROYDON CROYDON CLOCKTOWER Famtasy Football Art League - - - - Fuc. real seen limnigh the spas of Verticus exists Mon-Set Heri-Spin Sun (2000) Spin, ends St. Aug. E2, conds St. Earl-ly (2 – 4) 2 4 50, Keitgring Street, CR9 (3151-255 1060) 8FL 07/den 525/West.

HENLEY-ON-THAMES BOHUN GALLERY Watercolours and Mixed Media: John Piper 1903-1992 I terming the artists granded by me with variety of media than Tue & The-Sel Euleum of Team 2 form-5.50pm ends 25 Jul. Her. Reading Road (01491-576225)

LONDON BARBICAN ART GALLERY The Warhol Look: Gtemoor, Style, Pashion Over 500 works expolare at, film and teshion ouring "Neihol's life. Mon. Thu-Sat 10am-5.45pm. Tue 10am-5.42577, 1162 (1377-1.4227) 2131 4 58 Hols filmeen-E. 45cm, saids 16 Aug. Ed 164 after dom Mor-Fri . concs 64. Sills

DULWICH PICTURE GALLERY Paula Rego The letting cainter presents new work inspired by a 15th century novel. Opera 17 Jun. Tue-Fri 10am-50m, Saf 11am-5pm. Sun 2pm-5pm. ends 26 Jul. £3. 0AP/NUS £1.50. U640/ disabled child Fri free (17 gallery). College Read, SE21 (0161-693 5254) BR: West Dulwich/North Oulwich.

NATIONAL GALLERY Masters Of Light: Dutch Painting From Utrecht In The Golden Age Outch paintings from the 17th century. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm (Wed to 8pm), Sun 12noon-5pm, ends 2 Aug. E5, concs E3. Trafalgar Square, W C 2 (0171-839 3321) O Charing Cross, Leicester Square.

QUEEN'S BUCKINGHAM PALACE The Quest For Albico: Monarchy And the Patronage Of British Paintings More than 40 paintings from the Royal Col-lection, Mon-Sun 9.30am-4.30pm, ends 11 Oct. £4, OAP £3, under 17 £2, fam-(0171-839 1377) Victoria.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Royal Academy Summer Exhibit 1998 Major annual selling exhibition Mon-Sun 10am-5om (to 8.30 Sun) ends 16 Aug. £7, UB40/OAP £5.50, NUS £5. child 12-18 £2.50, child 8-11 £1, incl handbook. Burlington House, Pic-cadilly, WI 10171-300 8000/cc 300 5676) ◆ Green Park/Piccadilly Circus.

TATE GALLERY Some New Paintings: Lucian Freud Recent work by the leading artist, including a recent self-portrait eletting. Ends 26 Jul, free. Art New 14: Sophie Calle's The Birthday Ceremony Sculptural installation of birthday glits. Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends 16 Aug, free, Millbank, SW1 (0171-887 8000) ← Pirrilico.

OXFORD **ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM Architect** Of The Gothic Revival; L N Cottingham 1787-1847 Locoking at the lifetime achievements of the 19th-century architect. Tue-Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 2pm-4pm, ends 21 Jun, free. Beaumont Street (01865-278000)

PENZANCE PENLEE HOUSE GALLERY & MUSEUM Walter Langley Major exhibition of the 19th-century painter. Mon-Sat 10.30am-4.30pm, Sun 2pm-4.30pm, ends 30 Aug. £2, £1 concs. Morrati Road (01736-363625)

ST IVES ST IVES TATE GALLERY The Fragile Cell: John Wells Paintings by a lesser-known St Ives artist. Mon-Sai 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 1 Nov. £3.50, cones £2. Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226)

WORTHING WORTHING MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY Awash With Colour Watercolours since the 18th century. Most-Sal 10am-6pm, ends 27 Jun, free. Chapel Road (01903-204229)

CLASSICAL

EAST MOLESLEY HAMPTON COURT PALACE Lesley Garrott Joined by the mouth Symphony Orchestra for an evening of popular arias and songs. Torright 7.45pm. £29.50 & £35. (0171-344 4444)

LONDON BARBICAN HALL LORDO Symphony Orchestra Mozart's Haffrer Symphony and Strauss's Le Bourgeois Genathomme. Tonight 7.30pm. £8-£30. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) O Moorgate Barbican.

OPERA

LONDON HOLLAND PARK THEATRE Cavalleria Rusticana & I Pagliacci Classic verismo double-bill of Mascagni and Leoncavallo in an Opera Holland Parl oratication, Tenight 7.5Cpm, £24, concs £18.50, Kensington High Street, ₩8 (0171-6€2 7856) → High Street Kensington.

LONDON COLISEUM Manon New conduction of Masseret's opera from ENO. directed by David McVicar, Tonight 7pm. 25-249.50. St. Mathris Lane, WC2 10171-632 8300) & Leicester Square Charing Cross.

DANCE LONDON BARBICAN THEATRE The Royal

Ballet: The Rake's Progress/New Ashley Page Battet/Birthday Offering Mixed programme celebrating the 100th birthday of Dame Ninette de Valois. Tenighi 7.45pm. 59-£32. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-838 8891) Barbican/F.loorgate. KENSINGTON GARDENS.

OPPOSITE THE ROYAL A English National Ballet: Lark in The Park Rehearsals and classes taking place in a hage lent open for public viewing. Today. (all day), free, phone for class reservations. Kensington Gore. SW7 (0171-589 2752) → High Street Kensington.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL English National Bailet: Romeo And Juliet In-the-round staging by Derek Deane Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 30 Jun. £13.50-

LITERATURE

GEORGE ELIOT - A LIFE, WITH ROSEMARY ASHTON 8 lographer ol one of Britain's greatest writers brings new insights into the author. Theathe Royal St. Johns Place (01225-448844/cc 448861) Today 12pm, lunch 1.15pm, £6, with lunch £18.

LONDON EMMA FORREST & WILLIAM SUTCLIFFE Readings by the authors of Namedrooper and Are you Experienced Ottakar's Bookshop St. John's Road SW11 (0171-978 5844) Clapham Junction. Tonight 8pm, £1 redeemable against purchase.

COMEDY

DSMIC COMEDY CLUB Full sets from Danny Brown and Stewart Lee. Tonight 8pm, £3. Fullram Palace Road. W6 10171-HANS LINBERG IN INTERNA-

concs £6. South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo. READING STEVE COOGAN - THE MAN WHO THINKS HE'S IT AT THE HEXAGON Sublime character cornedy. Tordaht 7.30pm, £18.50. Queens Wa (0118-960

TIONAL AT PURCELL ROOM

"The Dutch Victor Borge". Tonight 8pm, £10.

CLUBS

BRISTOL THURSDAYS AT CAFE BLUE Live jazzwith John Baggot (Portishead). Tonight 8pm-1am, tree. The Old Fire Station, Silver Street (0117-940 5626)

SUPER DE LUXE ON THE GROUND FLOOR AT CLWB IFOR BACH Funk and disco. Tonight 10pm-2am, £2.50, NUS £2. Womanby Street (01222-232199)

ULTIMATE B.A.S.E AT THE VEL-VET ROOM Strong techno flavours with Carl Cox, Jim Masters and Trevor Rocklitte. Tonight 10pm-late, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-439 4655) & Tottenham

EVENTS

LONDON STOKE NEWINGTON FESTIVAL CURTAINS Trapeze performance by Hi Jinx in a gothic cometery. With poetry and specially commissioned music Amery Park Cometery Stamford Hill Entrance Off High Street N16 (0181-356 5358) BR: Stoke Newington, 18-20 Jun, 7pm & 9pm. £5, cones £2.50.

MADAGASCAR SPIRITS 3 ANNUAL celebration of Malagasy culture and environment through music and dance. Dingwalls Camden Lock, Chalk Farm Road, NW1 (0171-734 8932) → Camden Town, Tonight 7.30pm, £10, concs £8.

MYTHS & MONSTERS Exhibit explores the mythological and historical exprores the mythological and historical perspectives of strange creatures. Natural History Museum Cromwell Road SW7 (0171-938 9123) & South Kensington. Mon-Sat 10am-5.50pm, Sun 11am-5.50pm, ends 13 Sep. £6, concs £3 20. child £3, under-5s free, family ticket £16. ISLINGTON INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL Live music, comedy, catalet. avant-garde circus, storylelling, tea dances, massage and aromatherapy. Speigehent, Islington International Festival Highbury Fields N5 (0171-833) 3131/288 6700) ↔ Highbury & Islangton. Phone for programme details, ends 27 Jun. £7.50-£15. concs. available.

ZIPPO'S CIRCUS 1998 All-new circus production combining the traditional and the new, with cast from Britain, Italy. France, Mongolia, Morocco and Russia Figges Marsh London Road (07050-121416/13151?) Tonight 7,30pm, £5.50-£12, child £3.50-£10, today only all seats:

WIMBORNE PEACE AND INTERFAITH GATH-ERING With Lama Gangchen and other religious figures including Dati Janko. Sister Jayanti, Rabia Joyce Purcell, Geshe Ngawang Sherap, Rabbi Cliff Cohan and (01202-941 522) Times vary, ends 23

MUSIC POP '

BRISTOL DRUGSTORE Isabel Monteiro's lush lad trio. The Fleece St. Thomas Street

NAOM! Multi-instrumental blues and soul young singer-songwriter. Penny Theatre Northgate (01227-470512) Tonight 8pm, phone for prices.

CARDIFF WALTER TROUT BAND Veteran blues rocker. Coal Exchange Cardiff Bay (01222-452557) Tonight 8pm, phone for

LONDON EUGENE "HIDEAWAY" BRIDGES BAND Gospel-flavoured blues, soul and R&B reminiscent of the young BB King. 100 Club Oxford Street W1 (0171-636 0933) - Oxford Circus. Tonighi 8pm, £8, concs £6

Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 8pm, phone for prices. . REVOLUTIONARY DUB WARRIORS, RUBY THROAT, BAGHDADDIES Senefil gig loi Imprisoned Green Anarchist campaigners. The Garage Highbury Corner N5 10171-607 1818/cc 0171-344 0044) ← Highbury & Islington. Tonight 9pm, £5. DE LA SOUL Laid-back trippy East

(0171-960 4242) BR/⊕ Walerloo. Tonighl 8pm, £24.50-£34.50. MUSIC

BRIAN DEE TRIO Harmonically sophisticated modern pianist **606 Club** Lots Road SW10 (0171-352 5953) 👄 Fulham Broadway/Earls Court. Tonight 10рт, £4,95.

SONGS OF THE SPIRIT Tireless composer and bandleader Scott Stoman's powerful song cycle. Christ Church Highbury Grove N5 (0181-521 7797) Highbury & Islington, Tonight 7,30pm, £7,

6pm, phone for prices. STEVEN KOWALCZYK Soulful

Cooner and piants much vaunted in the US. Pizza Express Jazz Club Dean Street W1 (0171-439 8722)

Tottenham

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(0117-927 7150) Tonight 8pm, £6. CANTERBURY

MIGHTY MIGHTY BOSSTONES US ska-punk band promote their new album, Let's Face It. Astoria Charing Cross Road WC2 (0171-434 0403)

Coast hip-hop pioneers. Jazz Cafe Parkway NW1 [0171-916 6060) Camden Town. Tonight 7pm, £13.50. SHIRLEY BASSEY The sequinned Welsh diva with her vast repertoire. Royal Festival Hall South Bank SE1

JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

SHEILA KAY ADAMS US storyteller. traffader and banjo-picker, istington Folk Club, Empress Of Russia St John Street

Court Road. Tonight 9pm, £12.50.

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THURSDAY RADIO

RADIO 1 (97.6-99.8MHz FM) 6.30 Kevin Greening and Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Jo Whiley. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 Dave Pearce. 6.30 Steve Lamacq the Evening Session. 8.30 Live Music Update. 8.40 John Peel 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs. 1.00 Clive Warren. 4.00 - 6.30 Chris

RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Alex Lester. 7.30 Sarah Kennedy. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Debbie Thrower. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 John Dunn. 7.00 David Allan. 8.00 Paul Jones. 9.00 The Impro Musical 9.30 The Russ Abbot Show. 10.00 Paul Gambaccin's Inside Track. 10.30 Richard Allinson. 12.05 Steve Madden.

3.00 - 4.00 Katrina. RADIO 3 (90.2-92.4MHz FM) 8.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks, 10.30 Artist of the Week 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week:

Beethoven, 1.00 Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 The Piano." 4.45 Music Machine. 5.00 In Tune.

7.30 Performance on 3. A concert given in April at the Barbican Centre, London. Conductor Michael Tilson Thomas, Thomas Hampson (baritone). Bernstein: Suite: "A Quiet Place". Mahler: Blicke mir nicht in die Lieder: Ich atmet einen Linden Duft; Um Mitternacht; Ich bin der Welt abhanden gekommen (Ruckert-Lieder). Copland: Symphony No 3.

9.20 Postscript. Christopher Cook talks to five of Hollywood's most successful screenwriters. 4: Daniel Waters, writer of 'Batman Returns', 'Heathers', and the multi-milliondollar film that became a famous Hollywood disaster, Hudson Hawk. 9.45 Orphaus Brittanicus. A selection of Purcell's songs realised by

10.00 Music Restored. Chris da Souza introduces the first of two Radio 3 Invitation Concerts, recorded earlier this month at the 1998 Lufthansa Festival of Baroque Music, which this year has as its

PICK OF THE DAY

IF JOHN Smith hadn't died of a Titanic vanity project, and heart attack in 1994, we might not be squabbling over Mandy's damned Dome, says Christopher Andrew, in What If? (8pm R4), a new series of fantastically ferocious discussions about things that never happened. The Russ Abbot Show (9.30pm R2) displays sufficient irreverence to DiCaprio and Winslet's performances in James Cameron's

theme the music of the French

Baroque. Wilbert Hazetzet (flute),

Jacques Ogg (harpsichord) and

perform chamber music by Hotteterre, Morel and Leclair. 10.45 Night Waves. Paul Allen

explores the way glass has transformed the urban landscape

of the century as the new National

Glass Centre opens in Sunderland.

It will include two full-size glass fac-

tories and draws upon the heritage

of 13 centuries of glass-making in

12.00 Composer of the Week:

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

6.00 Today. 9.00 A Hard Act to Follow. See

10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

12.00 NEWS: You and Yours.

2.15 Afternoon Play: The Magic

3.00 NEWS; Call You and Yours

3.45 Windrush - Talking Heads.

1.00 The World at One.

2.00 NEWS; Tha Archers.

3.30 What's Yours Is Mine.

4.00 NEWS; Law in Action.

4.30 The Material World

1.30 Puzzle Panel

(0171) 580 4444.

1L00 NEWS; From Our Own Cor-

9.30 Ma and My Sidecar.

9.45 Serial; Boyhood.

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RADIO 4

11.30 Jazz Notes

(92.4-94.6MHz FM)

Pick of the Day.

respondent

Caravan.

11.30 Rent 4.

Christiaan Norde (viola da gamba)

journalist Liz Allen finds Veronica Guerin (right), the crime correspondent shot dead in 1996, A Hard Act to Follow (9am/9.30pm R4) as she takes over the crime desk at the Irish Sunday Independent. According to her editor, Allen is "cut from the same cloth", and has little time for recent accusations of recklessness. FIONA STURGES



5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 Goodness Gracious Me. 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 7:15 Front Row. Mark Lawson discovers the secrets of the parfect short story and finds the fine art of glass on show in Sunderland. 7.45 Under One Roof: Stairway to Heaven. By Michele Hanson and Jenny Landreth, based on Michele Hanson's articles. With Paola Dionisotti and Edna Dora. Director Marilyn Imrie (4/5). 8.00 NEWS; What It?. Radio's counterfactual history programme returna with more speculation ebout the past. 1: In 1994, Labour leader John Smith died suddenly

from a heart attack. A personal friend - senior Liberal Democrat MP Menzies Campbell - and Patrick Wintour, political editor of the Observer, join Professor Christopher Andrew to discuss how differently things might have turned out. See Pick of the Day. 8.30 The Week in Westmir Boris Johnson of The Daily Telegraph looks behind the scenes 9.00 NEWS; Hotlinks, Jez Nelson explores the latest in technological

innovation. 9.30 A Hard Act to Follow. In the first of eight conversations about professional and personal inheritances", Diana Madill talks to Liz Allen, crime correspondent of Ireland's Sunday Independent, whose predecessor in the lob, Veronica Guerin, was murdered by the gangsters she had striven to

expose. See Pick of the Day. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Master Georgie. Beryl Bainbridge's latest novel is abridged by Pauline Wallis. October 1854 - Funeral Procession Shadowed by Beatrice'. Read by Richard Griffiths (9/10). #LOO If You're So Clever, Why Aren't You Rich?. 'Death'. The last part of Paul Shearer and Richard Turner's comedy drama series about three not-so-young things sharing a flat. Starring Tony Slattery, Amanda Root and Paul Bigley. Giles is filled with Joy - Great Uncle Jeremy has died and there is e chance he might inherit. 11.30 The Sound of Sound. 12.00 News. 12.30 Late Story: Mexican Beans.

12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshora Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Todey. RADIO 4 LW

(198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 Dally Service. 11.00 Test Match Special 12.00 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast. 12.04 - 1.00 Test Match Special. 1.30 Test Match Special 5.54 Shipping Forecast, 5.57 - 6.30 Test Match Special, 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament. RADIO 5 LIVE (693, 909kHz MW) 5.00 The Breakfast Programme. 9.00 Nicky Campbell

12.00 The Midday News.

1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Nationwide and World Cup

7.00 News Extra. 7.30 World Cup 98. John Inverdale is in the new Stade de France, where the hosts play their second match in Group C. Commentary by John Murray, Dave Woods and

10.00 Late Night Live, With Nick Robinson, including the day's sports round-up at 10.30, a late night news briefing at 11.00, and 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 1.00 Up All Night 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM

(1000-1019MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick, 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths. VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM)

7.00 Chris Evans 10.00 Russ Williams, 100 Nick Abbot, 4.00 Paul Coyte / FM only Ray Cokes from 645. 7.30 Ray Cokes. 10.00 Mark Forrest, 2.00 Caimin Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark. WORLD SERVICE

(198kHz LW) 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Westway. 1.45 Britain Today. 2.00 Newsdesk. 2.30 Composer of the Month. 3.00 Newsday. 3.30 Focus on Faith. 4.00 World News. 4.05 World Business Report. 4.15 Sports Roundup. 4.30 The World Today (0430-0700)/Insight (SW 5875kHz only). 4-45 Off the Shelf: The Tailor of Panama. 5.30 Outlook (SW 7235kHz only). 5.55 6.30 Science View (SW 7235kHz TALK RADIO

6.30 The New Talk Radio Breakfast Show Kirsty Young with Bill Overton, 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 12.00 Lorraine Kelly. 2.00 Tommy Boyd. 4.00 Moz Dees World Cup Phone-In. 4.30 Live Commentary of South Africa v Denmark, 6.30 Moz Dees World Cup Phone-In. 7.00 Anna Raeburn. 9.00 James Whale. 1.00 Ian Collins and the Creatures of the Night. 5.00 -6.30 Early Show with Bill Overton.

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS WILLIAM HARTSTON

1 e4 c5

5 d3 e5

IF YOU are going to lose with White, you may as well get it over with quickly. That is the lesson of today's two games from events still in progress in London and Sweden.

The first comes from the openng round of the Agency Masters, at the Agency Club in London. Neil McDonald has made a speciality of winning moderate-strength allplay-all tournaments in London. but this time he got off to e dreadful start:

White: Neil McDonald Black: Peter Wells

10 Nxe5 Bxe4 10 h4 f5 11 g5 Rg8 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 12 f3 Rf7 12 d3 Bf5 13 Re3 Oa5 4 Ba4 Nf6 13 Re! Bxh3 5 0-0 Be7 14 Kh2 Be6 14 Qc2 NfB 6 Bxc6 dxc6 15 gxf6 gxf6 15 Bd2 Qb6 16 Nf3 Qd5 7 Qe2 Bg4 16 0-0-0 fxe4 8 h3 Bh5 17 Kh1 Bd6 9 g4 Bg6 White resigned

White lasted longer in this game from Maimo, but suffered more. Boris Spassky has not played for some years and looks very rusty.

White: Borls Spassky **Black: Joel Lautier** 19 Be3 Rf3 **20** Bg1 Ne6 2 Nf3 Nc6 21 Rh2 Rbf8 3 Bb5 d6 4 Bxc6+ bxc6 22 b3 Bd8 23 Kh2 Qb7 24 Qc1 Qf7 6 c4 Ne7 25 Be3 Qh5 7 Nc3 Ng6 8 g3 Be7 26 Rg2 Ba5 9 Ng1 0-0 27 Rdg1 Nd4 28 Rel Bh3 11 Qe2 Rb8

29 Rh2 Bf1 30 Ng1 Rxg3 31 Rxf1 Rxf1 32 Qxf1 Rxe3 **33** Rh3 Qh6 34 Nb1 Re1 White resigned

17 fxe4 Bg4 18 Nge2 Rf2 GAMBLING

DAVID SPANIER

NEXT TUESDAY sees the unveiling casinos in the capital up to 23. of the most sumptuous casino in London, 50 St James (named by its address). It was in former times the Jamaican High Commission, and has been done over by London Clubs International, et a cost of £6m, as a high-rollers' paradise.

A palatial entrance; gilded salons on either side; a magnificent staircase sweeping up to the main gaming room; an Art Deco diningroom; two salons prives for the millionaire players; gold leaf to die for. And overall, an air of aristocratic luxury such as only the British can create.

It is ironic - typical, you may say, of the switchback of fortunes that always happen in gambling - that this grand opening comes at a time when the casino industry, which had been so high, is down on its knees. Two heavy blows have fallen. First, the financial crisis in Asia, where most of the highrollers come from, has hit casino gambling hard. The oriental plungers have more or less stopped playing in London.

Nor has it helped that a gaming licence has been granted to a new operator to continue running the property which LCI is vacating the Ritz Club, just round the corner in Piccadilly. The new owners are the Barclay Brothers, property tycoons who are based in Monte Carlo. This brings the total of current problems.

Second, the last Budget imposed a severe increase in taxes on casinos, which will cost London Clubs International an estimated £12m a vear. Unlike other businesses, casinos cannot change their prices to recoup their costs. The odds, such as 35-1 for a number at roulette, are fixed by law.

No wonder LCTs share price has fallen by 50 per cent since the start of the year.

A similar decline has been suffered by Capital Corporation, the second casino group in London. The provincial operators have not been so hard hit, because they rely on local people rather than international high-rollers and are adept at surviving on a comparatively low turnover.

The public's attitude is probably "Who cares?" The casinos make enough money anyway; let's not waste any sympathy on them. Up to a point, this is fair enough. But why can't the Government show some consideration for the people who really matter - that is, the gambiers themselves? If the Home Office could bestir itself to give the public what it really really wants . that is a better deal, by allowing more slot machines and relaxing outdated restrictions on casino gaming, the industry would have a fighting chance of overcoming its

SATELLITE AND CABLE

SKY MOYES SCREEN 1 6.00 Out of Time (1968) (67489789), 7.40 Dangerous Curves (1987) (10517302), 9.20 My Ghost Dog (1997) (88779963), **11.00** Flipper (1996) (79166), **1.00** Out of Time (1988) (47895), 3.00 Coccon: the Return (1988) (47692), 5.00 My Ghost Dog (1997) (52654), 7.00 Flipper (1996) (52215), 9.00 Talk to Me (1996) (71951708), 10.45 My Family (1994) (42229418), 12.55 Overchive (1997) (124345). 2.30 The Price of Love (1995) (60277). 4.00 - 6.00 Lurking Fear

TKY MOVIES SCREEN 2 8.00 The Sky Palace (1994) (15079), 8.00 The Black Rose (1950) (21857). 10.00 Torn, Dick and Herry* (1941) (81654). 12.00 The Ascent (1994) (44706), 2.00 The Black Ross (1950) (46505). 4,000 Tom, Dick and Harry* (1941) (9050), **6.00** The Ascent (1994) (75710925), **7.40** US Top Ten (449944). 8.00 Hotel Sorrento (1996) (38586), 10.00 The Girmer Man (1996) (728673), 11.35 After Dark: Strents Klass (1995) (776505). 110 Strictly Business (1991) (9085600). 2.35 - 6.00 The

Odyssey (1997) (32163906). SKY MOVIES GOLD 4.00 Fire Down Below (1957) (7118789). 6.00 Earth Girls Are Easy (1989) (1582437). 8.00 Shirley Valentine (1969) See Pick of the Day (1554654), 10.00 Prince of the City 1980 486354B. 12.45 Graffiti Bridge (1990) (5495242), 2.15 My Geishe (1962) 8567). 4.45 Back Street* (1941) (91408548), **5.40** Close.

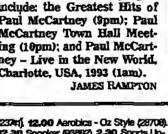
8.00 The A-Team (3471470). 9.00 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (8458050). \$20 Cops (7629708). 10,000 Italian Strip-ping Housewives (7379586). 10,30 World Cup Undercover (7386234). 11,00 Films: Parasite (1962) (3489505). 1.00 Beverty Hills Bordello (4291364), 1.30 Italian Stripping Housewives (3363513), 2.00 Real Sto ries of the Highway Patrol (7411884), 2,30 Cops (7503819), 2,00 Filims Hard Edge (7734890). 5.00 - 6.00 A-Team (7143068).

DISCOVERY CHANNEL 4.00 Pex Hunt's Fishing Adventures 1 (7537673). 4.30 Zoo Story (7533857). 6.00 First Flights (2233215). 5.30 History's Turning Points (7557437). 6.00 Animal Doctor (7547050). 8.30 Australian Sea Lion Story (2302760). 7.30 Disester (7594586). 8.00 Science Frontiers (3484944). 9.00 Flightline (8438296), 9.30 Ultra Science (7697554), 10.00 Forensic Detectives (3407895), 11.00 Professionals (2962437).

PICK OF THE DAY

WRITER Willy Russell has a real husband for a Greek island and Sky Movies Gold), a winning of tributes on VH-1. Highligh Russell's stage-play by veteran (right) dominates as a bored housewife who leaves her

knack for creating women's roles a hunky local (Tom Conti). Much -remember the accuracy of the in the news recently after the lead character in his Educating death of his wife, Linda, Sir Paul Rita? In Shirley Valentine (8pm McCartney is the subject of a day romantic comedy adapted from include: the Greatest Hits of Paul McCartney (9pm); Paul film-maker Lewis Gilbert (The McCartney Town Hall Meet-Good Die Young, Reach for the ing (10pm); and Paul McCart-Sky, Alfie), Pauline Collins ney - Live in the New World, Charlotte, USA, 1993 (1am).



12.00 First Flights (9270529), 12.30 Disaster (8281364), 1.00 The World's Most Dangerous Animals (3702971), 2.00 Close.

7.00 Tettooed Teenage Alien Fighters from Beverly Hills (47383), 7.30 Games World (5790925), 7.45 The Simpsons (51741), 8.15 The Oprah Winfrey Show (1188147), 9.00 Hotel (54811). 10.00 Another World (55302). 11.00 Days of Our Lives (75165). 12.00 Married with Children (79321). 12.30 M*A*S*H (2954925), 12.55 The Special K Collection (63570906). 1.00 Ger aldo (4331321). 1.55 The Special K Collection (41054505). 2.00 Salty Jessy Raphael non exuseous). ZAMS Sary Jessy Raphael (6058895). 2.55 The Special K Collection (4865166). 3.00 Jermy Jones (75382). 4.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (22437). 5.00 Star Trek: the Next Generation (3876). 6.00 The Nanny (8437). 6.30 Married with Chidren (9789), 7.00 The Simpsons (4505). 7.30 The Simpsons (8673), 8.00 Americal Dumbest Criminals (4875). 8.30 Seinfeld (2760). 9.00 Friende (11321). 9.30 Friends (92760), 10.00 Friencis (70050), 10.30 Friends (56470). 11.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (56031). 12.00 LAPD (45838). 1.00 - 7.00 Long Play (4127066).

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (3484166). 7.15 World Wrestling (595925), 845 Sky Sports Centre (2760854), 8,30 Racing News (17692), 9.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (99924). 9.30 Rebel Sports (43505), 10.00 World. of Super League with Eddle and Stavo

(2374) 12,00 Aerobics - Oz Style (28708). 12,30 Snooker (93892). 2,30 Sports Un-limited (5074). 3,30 Rebel Sports (4215). 4.00 Dancing (39741), 5.00 WWF Super-Stars (3418), 6.00 Sky Sports Centre (6429), 6.30 Futbol Mundal (4079), 7.00 Dancing (65654), 8.00 International Rugby Union USA v Japan (74502), 9.00 Trans World Sport (94166), 10.00 World Cup Phone-in (975383). 10.45 Sky Sports Centre (520692). 11.00 Formula Three Racing (30470), 11.30 Futbol Mundial (77050), 12.00 Sky Sports Centre (5842906), 12.15 Tight Lines (143838), 2.15 World Cup Phone-in (2572258). 3.00 Sky Sports Centre (6798093), 345 International Rugby Union USA v Japan (589155). 4.15 Dancing (783221). 5.15 Sky Sports Centre (3373819), 5.30 Close. **SKY SPORTS 2**

7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (9923741). 7.30 Sky Sports Centre (9958147). 7.45 Racing News (3854963). 8.45 European Tour Golf Megazine (1812944), 8.45 Sky Sports Centre (9998963), 9.00 Fish TV Americana Outdoors (8919012), 9.30 Fish TV Fishing Tales (4956873), 10.00 Golf Extra (2646050), 1.30 Watersports World (2019437). 2.30 Futbol Mundel (5103708). 3.00 World of Super League with Eddle and Stavic (\$114050), 5.00 Petrolineads (\$22983), 6.00 Showjumping (\$104437), 6.30 Inside the PGA Tour (\$125786), 7.00 Golf USA (\$235389), 3.30 Sky Sports Centre (92227819), 3.45 ice Hockey (3735819). 5.45 - 7.00 Sports Centre (99048345).

SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 World Wresting Federation Super-stars (52362383). 1.00 Wild Spirits (50661012), 1.30 Tennis Nottingham Open (18080050), 6.00 Rebel Sports (38396875). 6.30 Formula Three Racing (36277128). 7.00 Tight Lines (48433963), 8.00 Interna-tional Cricket England v South Africa (48420499). 10.00 Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (97801470), 11.30 Close.

6.00 Football: World Cur. 98 (10857), 7.30 Football: World Cup 98 (33708), 8.00 Footbell: World Cup 96 Italy v Cameroon (50383), 11.00 Footbell: World Cup 98 (17156), 12.00 Football: World Cup 98 12296), 1.30 Tarris (77079), 3.00 Cycling (45302), 4.00 Tennis (35147), 5.30 Bowling (30532) 6.30 Football World Cur. 98 (80126), 7.30 Football: World Cup 98 France v Saudi Arebia (573215). 10.00 Football: World Cup 98 South Africa v Denmark (44673), 12.00 Footbalt World Cup 98 (14819), 12.30 Close.

7.00 Crossroads (2855147). 7.30 Neighbours (8667079), 7.55 EastEnders (5259953), 8.30 The BII (7372673), 9.00 The Ett (7363925). 9.30 Juliet Bravo 6). 10.30 The Sullivans (7392437). 11.00 Dates (243/789). 11.55 Neighbours (29888925). 12.25 EastEnders (3088215). 1.00 Al Creatures Great and Small (7807031). 2.00 Dakes (5520128). 2.55 The Bit (7864925). 3.25 The Bit (7892215). 3.55

Juliet Bravo (8026692). 4.55 EastEnders (2727302), 5.30 Wowlabgroovy (75588) 6.00 At Creatures Great and Smel (7627895), 7.00 The Comedy Alternatives ast of the Summer Wine (4927147), 7.40 The Comedy Alternative: Waiting for God (5992050), 8.20 The Cornedy Alternative: Butterfies (2082215), 9.00 Bugs (7873848). 10.05 Bottom (6471394). 10.45 The Comic Strip Presents... 538225), 1L30 The Bil (5447934), 12.00 The Bill (9272967). 12.30 Live at Jongleurs (8263722). 1.00 The Equation (2942797). L50 The Fourier (3325426), 2.40 - 7.00 Shopping at Night (81308258). LIVING

6.00 Thy Living (9654789). 9.00 Roland (4246485). 9.50 Ready, Steady, Cook 38493021 10.30 The Young and the dess (3578708). 11.20 Brookside (16514532), 11.50 Jimmy's (58784418), 12.20 Animal Rescue (86380215), 12.50 Rescue 911 (5532586). 1.25 Hart to Hart (8830554), 2_20 Living it Up! (8972857). 3_20 Rolonda (4823925), 4_30 Tempestit 6147). 5J00 The Heet is On (710076) 5.30 Ready, Steedy, Cook (9961586), 6.10 Jerry Springer Uncut (6025215), 7.00 Rescue 911 (7197296), 7.30 Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (1976654), 8.00 Adrenain Junkies (1581708). 9.00 Films Bables (1990) (15528012), **11.05** Jerry Springer After Hours (2447708), **12.00** Close.

9.00 Film: 'FBons 'n' Wessel (1992) (48410012). **** TLOO Films: Sheft (1971) (22879166). 1.00 Film: The Best House in London (1969) (22820890), 3.00-5.00 Films T-Bone 'n' Weasel (1992) (48263109).

Gramada Pkrs 6.00 The Box (2378708), 7.00 El Uncut -Ricky Martin (779495). 7.30 Coronation Street (7773573). 8.00 Dempsey and Makepeace (2799383). 9.00 Mission: Impossible (4381836). 10.00 Return of the Seint (7779857). 11.00 Haveii Five-O (7782321). 12.00 Coronation St (2108302). 12.30 Families (5109416), 1.00 The Cuckoo Waltz (7793437), 1.30 On the Buses (3106788), 2.00 Mission (7341708), 3.00 Dempsey and Makepeace (8939505), 4.00 Haved Five-O (8818012). 5.00 Return of the Seint (7599031), 8.00 Femilies (9725708), 6.30 Coronation St (9709760), 7.00 Doctor at Large (7590760). 7.30 Doctor on the Go (9705944). **6.00** Demosey and Makepeace (187586). **9.00** Mission (190050). **10.00** Return of the Saint (100437). 11.00-2.00 As Granada Men & Motors (7319963).

PUZZLE

BE CAREFUL about this one. Not rate of the slower. What is the only do most people get it wrong: even when told the right answer, they cannot see how it is done. Four men have to cross a river.

There is only one boat, and it will hold only two at a time. The boat will not go across the river on its own. Because the men are of vastly different bulk, the time they take to cross the river varies. From slowest to fastest they take 10, 5, 2 and together, the boat crosses at the

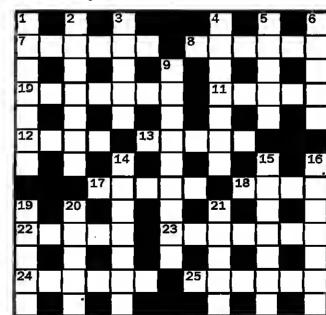
shortest time it takes to get all four across the river? (Answer

Yesterday's answer: (brackets indicate weights in same scale) 1. (R1+B1): (R2+W1)

If they balance, try: (B2): (W2). One will be heavier, if B2, then B2. R1 and W1 are the heavy balls. If the first weighing does not bal-1 minute respectively. When two are ance, try: (B1): (W2). The result will enable everything to be deduced.

CONCISE CROSSWORD

No.3640 Thursday 18 June



ACROSS

Exhaled audibly (6) Ponders (6) 10 Lie (7) 11 Moving arm (5) 12 Ceremony (4) 13 Entertain (5)

17 Part of step (5) 18 Was aware of (4) 22 Lock of hair (5) 23 Roman god (7) 24 Mock (6) 25 Small piece (6)

DOWN Tidal river-mouth (7) Excite or disturb (7) Thigh-bone (5) Beneficiary of estate (7) Gemstone (5) Money-lending (5) Sparkling wine (9) 14 Take the chair (7) 15 Extreme pain (7) 16 In a manner pleasant to the ear (7) 19 Academic work (5) 20 County in SW Ireland (5)

21 Front part of stage (5)

100

1 / 7

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Simper, 4 Visors (Sympathisers), 7 Sun-bonnet, 9 Room, 10 Tree, 11 Prism, 13 Batman, 14 Hobnob, 15 Cleric, 17 Quartz, 19 Croup, 20 Reap, 22 Para, 23 Laundered, 24 Timely, 25 Script, DOWN: 1 Scarab, 2 Phun, 3 Reborn, 4 Vanish, 5 Suet, 6 Superb, 7 Soft-pedal, 8 Trunk road, 11 Panic, 12 Mop up, 15 Carpet, 16 Cranny, 17 Queens, 18 Zealot, 21 Pate, 22

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

**BBC N IRELAND AS BBC1 London except: 8.30 Newsine 6.30 6.55 - 7.00 Party Election Broadcast by Sirn Feln 12.05 learns and Minds 12.35 Royal Ascot 1.00 - 6.00 Joins BBC News 24 .

Scotland As BBC1 London except: 6.00 News 6.30 - 7.00 Reporting Scotland; Weather WALES As BBC1 London except: 6,30

ANGLIA
As Cariton except: 12.20 Angla
News and Weather (3978993). 1.00
Hope and Gloria (31708). 1.30 House
Hunters (59031). 2.00 The Jerry
Springer Show (4801857): 3.20 Angla
News (9045294). 6.50 Angla News and
Weather (43012). 10.30 Angla News
and Weather (356079). 12.20 Tales
From the Darkside (6227277). 12.50
The Jerry Springer Show (8627345). Troil trie Dancside (622/2/1), T2-30, The Jerry Springer Show (8627345), 140 SFX (847567), 2.05 Planet Mirth (2166635), 2.35 Fartissy World Cup Live (920689), 3.10 The Chart Show (8424567), 3.50 Vanessa (1240906). 4.25 Cybernet (92532819), 4.55 ITV

CENTRAL
As Carthon except: 12.20 Central
News and Weather (3978993), 12.30
ITN News; Weather (50780), 1.00 A
Country Practice: A tragic story of
Country Practice: A tragic story of Country Practice: A tragic story of surrogacy unfolds as two sisters battle over the custody of a child (\$1706). 3.21 Central News (8045234). 6.50 Central News, Weather (743012). 10.30 Central News, Weather and Travel. Update (356079). 4.10 Joblinder (8571529). 5.20 Asian Eye (5835074).

As Cariton except: 10.10 This Morning (18017302), 12.15 HTV News (1052215), 1.00 Shortland Street (37708), 1.30 House Hurters (59031), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (4801857), 3.20 HTV News (9045224), 6.50 Wales Toright (743012), 7.30 inquisition (789), 10.30 HTV News (356079), 11.10 World Cup 98 - Encarel (590166), 12.15 We Can Work It Out (3917987), 12.50 The Jerry Springer Show (8827345), 1.40 SFX (8471587), 2.05 Planet Marth (2166835), 2.35 Fantasy World Cup Live (9200819), 3.10 The Chart Show (8424587), 2.50 Vanessa (1240905), 4.25 Cybernet (92532819), 4.55 ITV HTY WALES 4.25 Cybernet (92532819). 4.55 [[V Nightscreen (8943258).

As HTV Wales except: 6.50 The West Tonight (ASO)2, 7.30 We Can Work it Out: Judy Finnigan presents another edition of the consumer affairs. magazine (789). 12.15 We Can Work It magazne (789). 12.13 we can work of Out (7917345). 12.20 Public Morals: Drama series about two detectives. A thousand dollars disappears from a stash confiscated from an illegal gambing house (6227277). MERIDIAN

As Cartton except: 10:10 This Morning (18017802). 12:15 Meridian News and Weather (1052215). 1:00 Shortland Street (31708). 1:30 Quaine Shortland Street (31/19): 1.30 (1.83): (59031), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (4601857). 3.20 Meridian News and Weather (9045234). 6.50 Meridian Tonight (743012). 10.30 Meridian News and Weather (356079). 12.20 Tales from the Dentside (6227277). 12.50 The Jerry Springer Show (8577345). 1.40 Jarry Springer Show (8627345). 1.40 SFX (8471567). 2.05 Planet Mirth (2186835). 2.35 Fantasy World Cup Live (200839, 2.35 Familiary Work Cup Li (9200819, 3.40 The Chart Show (9424567), 3.50 Vanessa (1240806), 4.25 Cybernet (92532819), 4.55 ITV Nightscreen (42921364), 5.00 Freescreen (92722).

WESTCOUNTRY As Caritos except: 10.10 This Morning (18017302). 12.15 Westcountry News (1052215). 12.27 illuminations (5754532). 1.00 Emmendals: Betty discovers the truth about Tara and Biff.
Zak and Butch try to bury their sinister
secret. A scare for James brings Kim
and Tara into further conflict (37708).
3.20 Westcountry News (9045234).
6.50 Westcountry News (9045234).
6.50 Westcountry Live (743012). 10.30
Westcountry News (356079). 12.20
Tales from the Crypt (5227277). 12.50
The Jerry Springer Show (8627345).
1.40 SFX (847567). 2.05 Planet Mirth
(266635). 2.35 Pentasy World Cup Live
(9200879). 3.40 The Chart Show
(8424567). 3.50 Vanessa (1240806).
4.25 Cybernet (92532219). 4.55 ITV discovers the truth about Tara and Biff.

4.25 Cybernet (92532819), 4.55 ITV Nightscreen (8943258). YORKSHIRE

As Cariton except: 10.40 This
Morning (18017302), 12.15 Calendar
News and Weather (1052215), 1.00
House Hunters: Lorreine Kelly presents
the gameshow in which house-hunting
couples are challenged to guess the
asking price of houses across Britain
(39405895), 1.25 The Jerry Springer
Show (7147825), 2.30 Emmerdale (1981037), 3,20 Calendar News (9045234), 6,50 Calendar (743012), 10,30 Calendar News and Weather (356079), 4,30 Bot of British Motor Sport (30338141), 4,30 Jobfinder (53432), TYNE TEES

TYNE TELS
As Yorkshire except: 12.15 North
East News (1052215). 3.20 North East
News (9046234). 6.50 North East
Weather (585516). 6.55 North East
News (830645). 10.30 North East News
and Weather (356079).

As Channel 4 except: 12.00 Rickl Lake (39789). 12.30 Sesame Street (58302). 1.00 Slot Melitrin: Dafydd a Bitw (22050). 1.30 Begone Dull Care (97372963). 1.40 Fitn: You Were Never (97372953), **1.40** Film: You Were Never Loveler* (19981499), **4.30** Countdown (302), **5.00** Spump: Uned 5 (2037), **5.00** Newyddion 8 (436925), **6.10** Heno (664705), **7.00** Pobol y Cwm (909741), **7.25** Pryd o Defod (285760), **8.00** Jocars (9031), **8.30** Newyddion (8166), **9.00** Dawson's Creek (4673), **10.00** Film: Doc Hollywood (644012), **11.55** TV Offal (120876), **12.25** Michael Hayes (5903155), **1.20** Dr John Special (7483616), **2.05** Close.

BBC

9.00 All over the Shop (R) (S) (1929050), 8.20 Kliroy 9.00 All over the Shop (R) (S) (1929050), 8.20 Kliroy 9.00 All over the Shop (R) (S) (1929050), 8.20 Kliroy 9.01 (745186), 10.00 The General (S) (91692), 10.30 (S) (716981), 10.40 Newe; Royal Ascot First Show (S) (7828091), 10.55 Crickst – Regional Newe; Weather (T) (7721447), 10.55 Crickst – Regional Newe; Weather (84582925), Second Test. England vs South Africa (84582925

Royal Ascot. Feeturing the 230, 305 and 345, the latter being elightly better known as the Gold Cup (S) (94933983).

Children's BBC; Flevel's American Talls (R) (S) (3312012), 4.28 Mr Wymi (R) (S) (T) (2002296), 4.40 (Goosebumps (S) (T) (737483), 8.00 Neweround (S) (T) (4458429), 8.10 Record Breakers (R) (S) (T) (6208437).

Neighbours. It's revenge tims for Toadis, apparently (5) (1) (798418).

8,00

8.30 Regional News (1) (437).

Tomorrow's World. How equires remem they put their nuts (B) (T) (7673).

Posmorid Cup 86 Lives Frence vs Sesudi Arebia.

Saudi Arebia from the Btade de France (kick-off at 8pm), saudi Arebia from the Btade de France (kick-off at 8pm), plus briat highlighta of the Group C gama between from Africa and Denmerk. The metch analysis comes south Africa and Denmerk. The metch analysis comes from Afan Hensen and David Ginola (commentery from Afan Hensen and Chrie Waddle). Let's hope the BBC John Motson and Chrie Waddle). Let's hope the BBC as the head about like a spectator at a tennis match moves hie head about like a spectator at a tennis match half was ehorter. A small point, but there's not a great half was ehorter. A small point, but there's not a great deel to any about France ve Seudi Arabia, which looks like head one of the most one-sided games of the

vs; Regionel News) Weather (1) (47708)

to where we get to the ambitions, which is the

10,30

Smith and Jones. Mel and Griff do their well-seasonad schilck (R) (S) (T) (23/28).

Question Time. Hand-wringing over English footbali hooliganiem will be high on the egenda (S) (678586).

12.05 Roysi Ascot. Ladles' Day highlights (S) (8220384) **1311M Fether, Son and the Mistress** (Jey Sendrich 1992 US). Stupid, laboured comady has submarked to the mistrake. Jack Lemmon bankrupting himeelf to te millionalis Jack Lemmon his spolit family a lesson. n As It (S) (T) (31345).

programme, which
concentrated on "the most
complicated object in tha
known universe", Winston
offered another image to help
viewers grasp tha slippery
conceptual surface of his topic.
He asked you to imagine a city
the size of New York in which
every inhebitant had 10,000
pieces of string, each of which
was tied to another person.
Now increase the size of the
city by a factor of 10 and —
provided you hadn't got bogged
down in nit-picking about
breaking strain and knot
provided you would have a
rough model for the neuronal
networks in the human skull.
Tempiting as it must have been
to cats-cradia a Manhattan
skyscraper, the producers (or
the accountants) had declined
to film this image. When
whiston used a terrate mound
as a model for the nature of the
human mind, or the other
human included—an effective
Dorling Kindersley illustration
of the way in which simple
units can construct

small ambitions, which is the only way to describe the primer level of much of the information conveyed. If The Human Body really is for adults, then our education system is in a slightly more parlous state than anybody has eo far admitted. A more charitable way to think of it would be as the finest children's programme the BBC has made for many years. It was reported yesterday that The Jerry Springer Show had been censured by a broadcasting watchdog for inviting viewers to laugh at an obese mar's appearance. This is ominous news for Fantasy would be about four minutes long if the element of physical mockery and personal abuse was removed. It is, of course, thoroughly reprehensible and childish. Unfortunately, it is often far too funny to switch off. And when the abuse is aimed at David Mellor, one of the more pompous

2.00 Joins 88C News 24 MATCH OF THE DAY

(4524180). To 6,00am

real upset in Paris this evening (and, let's face it, n pitch invasion by England supporters is more likely that the Snutle invasion by England supporters is more likely that the Snutle invasion beating France – but then, you never know, the host nation beating France – but then, you never know, the host nation beating france – but then, to next round. All of which gives would seem to be through to the next round. All of which gives would seem to be through to the progressing if they can beat South Africa a slim chence of progressing if they can beat Denmark's enable of two goals. Their top siriker, Benedict Denmark's eticky 4-4-2 system before having s sniff at one past Denmark's eticky 4-4-2

THE CITAOEL (11pm Co DOCUME

Service – given that its au Service – given that its au Richard Horton, who rem in 1823 to kick the medice Horton accuses the Brille College of Surgeone and secretive old boys' clubs interests et tha patients' interests of the RCS ar Sweetnam of the RCS ar

BBC2

TURSDAY

EVISION

Electrical de la companya de la comp

Children's BBC; Teletubbies (S) (2853505). 7.25 Goober and the Ghoet Chasers (2832012). 7.50 Site Goober (S) (T) (2883873). 8.15 Yog's Space Race Peter (S) (T) (2883873). 8.15 Yog's (7512147). (7186437). 8.35 Halry Jeramy (R) (S) (7512147).

Working Lunch (38498505), 1.35 Cricket - Second Test: England ve South Africa (5) (94918854), 3.50 Newe; Regional News; Weether (T) (3334234).

(S) \$

8.45 Ster Trekt Voyager. The craw respond to the distress cell of a Kazon wership. Bed move (R) (S) (T) (230050).

10.20 Children's Heeithi Burvivel Quide (S) (T) (237302) 9.40 Let Them Eet Criepe. Why children era getting fatter (the title contains a clue) (S) (T) (293186).

10.00 News; Weether (T) (32876).

10.30 London Tonight. Regional update (T) (356079).

.40 Fantaey World Cup Live. Let's see them deal tronically with the hooligan problem (285741).

48 The Record (S) (4215012). 8.10 Go for III (S) (4252147).
8.25 Job Benk (S) (432454). 8.38 Job Benk (S)
8.09012). 8.48 Come Curiside (S) (8019876). 10.00
(809012). 10.48 Teaching Todey: Science end (5821465). 10.48 Teaching Todey: Science end (5821465). 10.48 Teaching Todey: Science end 11.5 Zig Zeg: Denger Detectore (S) (1319505). 11.35
11.15 Zig Zeg: Denger Detectore (S) (1319505). 11.35
11.88 Lifeschool (S) (6222362). 12.30 Cricket –
11.88 Lifeschool (S) (6222362). 12.30 Cricket –
Becond Teet. England vs South Africa (S) (83234). 1.00
The Family Nees (R) (S) (25588128).

Out end About. Diene-Louise Jorden and Mika Embley visit Oxfordshire (963).

Looking Good. As we welt with belied breath for the new earlies of the fashion magazine (which begins next month), here's a compileton of the first saries (5) (4983).

8.30 All the Right Moves. More edvice for the home-buyer and seller. This week, the pitfells of owning a listed house, letting, and sharad ownership (3470). 8.00 Dootore at Lerge. Time-Jepse doctore. The cereer of would-be surgeon Fey Probst has stalled (S) (T) (3692).

8.30 Children's Health: Survivel Guide: immunisation explained (S) (T) (924031).

10.30 Newenight. Jeremy Paxman has his eardonic way with another betch of political hecks (T) (226789).

Carlton

Channel

JEDINE World Cup 88 Live: South Africa vs Oenmerk. Jim Rosenthal presents live covarage of the Group C metch between South Africa and Danmark from Toulouse (kick-off at 4.30pm), with enelysie from Boby Robson and Barry Venison. Sas Match of the Day. below (T) (75905944).

London Tonight (T) (743012).

7,00

We Cen Work It Out. Judy Finnigen investigates the compensation offered when travel companies cencel holideys. Reporter Ed Hell attempts to get the best deal on car insurance (S) (789).

O Bramwett. The second of two teature-length episod for our female surgeon in 1890e London, epacially writ for our female surgeon in 1890e London, epacially writ for our gennon. Already faced with a "personal dilemma" (competing admirers Joe Mercham and deshing Mejor Guy Quarrie). Eleanor finds herself deshing Mejor Guy Quarrie). Eleanor finds herself contronting the world of child prostitution. Driven by he concern for a young girl and featings of guilt. Eleanor riske her reputation, her future happinese end her position at the Thriff (S) (T) (7383).

11.00 GIOLE The Citedel. See Documentary of the Day, below (5555).

11.30 Or John Speciel (244470). 12.15 Michael Hayes (T) (7724703).

Box Office America (8588548). 3.10 Fentaey World Cup Live (57734838). 3.35 We Can Work it Out (8809165). 4.05 Best of British Motor Sport (53542631). 4.30 ITV Nightscreen (83432). To 5.30am. 2.45 IIII Eyewitness (Muriel Box 1856 UK). A witnese to a crime is menaced by a pair of eefacrackers. Donald Sindan is involved (208635). To 4.20am.

O GMTV (25264(8), 8,25 This Morning (T) (4337128): a Vaneesa (S) (T) (1891876), 10.40 This Morning (T), Vaneesa (S) (T) (1891876), 10.40 This Morning (T), (3854470), 12.20 Your Shout (3978983), 12.30 New Weather (T) (50760), 1.00 London Today (T) (31708), Weather (T) (50760), 1.00 London Today (T) (920437), 2,48 Watfie (S) (T) (928708), 3.18 TN News Headlines (T) (9048321), 3.18 (T) (9045234).

Children's ITY: Potamus Park (R) (S) (9035857). 3.35 Tha Riddlera (S) (8980760). 3.48 Disney Cartoon (R) (S) (6244012). 3.55 Zzzapi (R) (8344844).

3.30 Wetercolour Challenge (T) (383), 4.00 Fifteen to One (S) (T) (419), 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (5777944).

4.85 Rick! Leke. Guests boast of their thievary, including a pair of ehoplitters end a woman who claims benefit deepite her husband working (S) (T) (7549825).

5.30 Pet Rescue. The work of en East London cat-welfers centre (S) (T) (854).

1.35 CHOIRE The Rebel (Robert Dey 1960 UK). London of the worker, Tony Hancock, heade off to Left Bank Parle to become en artist. See Film of the Day, below (T) (54941741).

1.30 **[3] IVI Stroke.** New Zealand ehort about a woman's thwarted plane to have a dip in the eae (R) (76447895).

Beseme Straet (R) (S) (88079), 7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (2998). 8.00 Channel 4 Schools (S) (T) (870169), 11.30 Powerhouse (8825), 12.00 Sesame (Street (S) (39789), 12.30 Light Lunch (R) (T) (66586).

8.30 Hollyooks. Teenage life in Chester, allagedly. Kurt and Ruth move into their new flet (S) (T) (147). 5.00 Roseenne. Roseanna gives Dariene's clase a crash course in the reelities of a family dining on a budget (R) (T) (895). 7.00 Channel 4 News; Weether, including headlines at 730pm (S) (T) (833296).

7.50 The Windrush Years. Mavis Stev arrived as a 19-year-old, determined arrived as a 19-year-old, determined to be a nurse, and how, deeplite encountering racism, she rose to the position of Santor Health Manager (T) (783401). Gelebrity Countdown. With Graeme Garden and Alen Coren, end Matthew Parris in Dictionary

8.30 Resi Gerdene. Monty Don returns to Sue Broome's garden to help plant an alpine bed (8186). ner (17) (9031).

LETIM Occ Holly wood (Michael Caton-Jonas 1991 US). Twin Peaks posably started it, but the early US). Twin Peaks posably started it, but the early Ninelee eaw a spate of whatful TV programmes, such as Ninelee eaw a spate of whatful TV programmes, such as Ninelee expanded in provincial backwaters end coming to like the experience. This one stars Michael J Fox in a likeable experience. This one stars Michael J Fox in a likeable

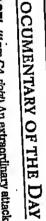
11.10 World Cup 98 - Encorel (590188). 12.15 The Jerry Springer Show (S) (T) (5098277).

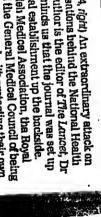
.05 The Sw

IN The Swiss Conepiracy (Jack Amold 1975 US). Jaw-breakingly dull thriller with David Janesen's priveta detective hired to inveetigate the blackmailing of customers at a discreet Swiss bank (948118).

1.10 IIIM Joe Macbeth (Ken Hughee 1955 US). Crima thriller based loosely on "the Scottish play" (900519).

pm C4, right) An extraordinary strack on rganisations behind the National Health rganisations the editor of The Lancet, Dr Lits author is the editor of The Lancet, Dr 10 reminds us that the journal was set up nedical establishment up the backside.

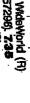






THE REBEL (135pm C4, ngh) Tony Hancock escapes
23 Railway Cuttings and the half-hour, black-and-white TV
23 Railway Cuttings and the half-hour, black-and-white TV
23 Railway Cuttings and the half-hour, black-and-white TV
23 Railway Cuttings and the half-hour, black-and-white lend, and for feature-length Technicolor celluloid – and, for met, with Hancock's City drone dreaming of to vie boheme on best, with Hancock's City drone dreaming of to vie boheme on Paris's Left Benk – succeeding (as Hancock should never do)
Paris's Left Benk – succeeding (as Hancock should never do)
Paris's Left Benk – succeeding (as Hancock for a new Infantile when his pieces of ameteur tat are mistaken for a new Infantile school of peinting. There's no Sid James, alsa, but George sanders, Dennis Price, Irene Handl and John Le Mesurier are all professional enough to subeume themselves to the all professional enough to subeume themselves to the particular requirements of Hancock's comic art.





hannel 5

THE THURSDAY REVIEW
The Independent 18 June 1998

6.00 5 News and Sport (S) (BIB1708). 7.00 Wide-World (R) (S) (T) (B364079). 7.30 Mikishakei (S) (3367298). 7.35 Wind in the Willows (2197234). 8.00 Havakazoo (S) Wind in the Willows (2197234). 8.00 Havakazoo (S) Wind in the Willows (2197234). 8.00 Havakazoo (S) (A490498). 8.30 Dappledown Farm (R) (4488470). 8.00 The Realm of the Polar Beer (S) (T) (4406060). 9.30 The Oprah Whitrey Show (R) (4942215). 10.20 Sumset Beach Oprah Whitrey Show (R) (4942215). 10.20 Sumset Beach Oprah (R) (S) (B164701). 12.00 S (S) (T) (4493586). 12.30 Family Affaire (S) News at Noon (S) (T) (4493586). 12.30 Family Affaire (S) (8356050). 1.30 Sona and Daughters (4388470). 2.00 (8356050). 1.30 Sona and Daughters (4388470). 2.00 (B356050). 1.30 Sona and Daughters (4388470). 2.00 (B36050)

Return to sender. Production-line western "starring" Stephen McNally as an ex-gunflighter who becomes en stephen McNally as an ex-gunflighter who becomes en undercover agant for the railroad in order to thwart mail robbery. The supporting cast includes a number of then up-and-coming actors, including Richard Egen and Jamaa Arness (6630673).

5.10 The Opreh Winfrey Show (1387302).

6.30 Family Affairs. Holy is still trying to lose her virginity, you'll be pleased to hear (S) (T) (7925429). 6.00 100 Per Cent. Three people are put into isolation tanks and quizzed remoreelessly. The winner comes back for more. Now that's what I call mesochism (S) (1620037).

7.00 8 News, including First on Five. Kirsty Young does the rounds of etudio furnitura (S) (T) (4017447).

7.30 Realm of the Polsr Bear. Visit the recently discovered, fossilised forest on Axel Heiberg Island (S) (T) (5020893).

8.00 Water Rate, More cop action from Sydnay Harbour.
Hollowsy (the excellent Colin Frisis, in an interesting change of pace) is rushed to hospital after being shot in an armed robbery (5) (5070883).

9.00 TIME A De rson 1989 US). Inwimmer,

10.50 The Jack Docherty Show (5) (8682857)

11.30 Hotline (S) (7789780).

12.05 Live and Dangeroua. Including at 135 US soccer (as if we needed eny more), at 3.00 Asian soccer (ditto) and, at 3.50 Australian-rules tootball (S) (63470838). 4.46 **Prisoners Cell Blook H** (8248619), **8.30** 100 Per Cent (R) (S) (8926155), To 6.00am.

Television Guide by Gerard Gilbert



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